



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

August 13, 2021

The Honorable Ted Lieu
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 4146, Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2021

Dear Representative Lieu:

The City of Beverly Hills is pleased to SUPPORT H.R. 4146, the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2021. This important legislation protects thousands of young men and women from the harmful practice and treatment of therapeutic conversion.

According to the UCLA School of Law's Williams Institute, approximately 698,000 LGBTQ people in the United States have been subjected to conversion therapy with another 16,000 LGBTQ teens potentially in harm's way. A slew of professional medical and mental health organizations such as the American Psychanalytic Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics echo your legislative findings that conversion therapy is nothing more than a discredited fraud perpetrated on one of the most vulnerable populations in our society. The damage left in the wake of such treatments are all too real involving anxiety, substance abuse, low self-esteem, homelessness and, tragically, suicide. We must not, cannot tolerant or turn a blind eye to this form of abuse.

By calling out for-profit therapeutic conversion services as fraudulent and subject to punitive action by the Federal Trade Commission, H.R. 4146 takes an important step in dismantling this cottage industry. While I understand there may be a legal rationale for limiting the bill's mandate to for-profit organizations, I urge you to consider adding non-profit organizations as well. People who are unfortunate enough to be exposed to such practices and treatment suffer harm irrespective of whether the organizations perpetrating this hoax are for-profit or not.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills SUPPORTS H.R. 4146. Thank you again for your leadership and commitment in tackling this important and urgent issue.

Sincerely,

Robert Wunderlich
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills