

REFERENCE TITLE: conversion therapy; prohibition; sexual orientation

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2021

## **HB 2487**

Introduced by  
Representatives Chávez: Epstein, Hernandez A, Hernandez D, Jermaine,  
Lieberman, Meza, Salman, Terán, Senators Engel, Marsh

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 32, CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 32-3228; RELATING TO HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 32, chapter 32, article 1, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 32-3228, to read:

4 32-3228. Conversion therapy; unprofessional conduct;  
5 definitions

6 A. IT IS AN ACT OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR A PSYCHOTHERAPIST TO  
7 PROVIDE ANY CONVERSION THERAPY TO A PERSON WHO IS UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF  
8 AGE REGARDLESS OF THE WILLINGNESS OF THE PERSON OR THE PERSON'S PARENT OR  
9 LEGAL GUARDIAN TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVERSION THERAPY. THE PSYCHOTHERAPIST  
10 IS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE APPROPRIATE HEALTH PROFESSION  
11 REGULATORY BOARD FOR VIOLATING THIS SUBSECTION.

12 B. A HEALTH PROFESSION REGULATORY BOARD MAY NOT AUTHORIZE A  
13 RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION TO THE PROHIBITION PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS  
14 SECTION.

15 C. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

16 1. "CONVERSION THERAPY":

17 (a) MEANS ANY PRACTICE OR TREATMENT THAT SEEKS TO CHANGE THE SEXUAL  
18 ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY OF A PERSON, INCLUDING A PRACTICE OR  
19 TREATMENT THAT SEEKS TO CHANGE BEHAVIORS OR GENDER EXPRESSIONS OR TO  
20 ELIMINATE OR REDUCE SEXUAL OR ROMANTIC ATTRACTIONS OR FEELINGS TOWARD  
21 PERSONS OF THE SAME GENDER.

22 (b) DOES NOT INCLUDE A PRACTICE OR TREATMENT THAT EITHER:

23 (i) PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO A PERSON WHO IS UNDERGOING GENDER  
24 TRANSITION.

25 (ii) PROVIDES ACCEPTANCE OF AND SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING TO A  
26 PERSON, FACILITATES A PERSON'S ABILITY TO COPE OR PROVIDES SOCIAL SUPPORT  
27 AND IDENTITY EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT TO A PERSON, INCLUDING AN  
28 INTERVENTION TO PREVENT OR ADDRESS UNLAWFUL CONDUCT OR UNSAFE SEXUAL  
29 PRACTICES THAT IS NEUTRAL AS TO AND DOES NOT SEEK TO CHANGE THE SEXUAL  
30 ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY OF THE PERSON RECEIVING THE INTERVENTION.

31 2. "PSYCHOTHERAPIST" MEANS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

32 (a) A PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 13 OF THIS  
33 TITLE AND WHO SPECIALIZES IN THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHIATRY.

34 (b) A HOMEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 29  
35 OF THIS TITLE.

36 (c) A PSYCHOLOGIST WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 19.1 OF THIS  
37 TITLE.

38 (d) A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO  
39 CHAPTER 33 OF THIS TITLE.