End the harmful practice of conversion therapy in New Mexico

Conversion therapy refers to practices aimed at changing a person’s sexual orientation and/or gender identity. These include behavioral, cognitive, and psychoanalytic practices, as well as aversive conditioning.

Such practices are devoid of scientific validity and pose serious dangers to patients—especially to minors, who are often forced to undergo them by their parents or legal guardians, and who are at especially high risk of being harmed.

Minors who experience family rejection based on their sexual orientation or gender identity face especially serious health risks.

**SB 121: No Conversion Therapy**

**Sponsor: Sen. Jacob Candelaria**

1. Prohibits state-licensed health practitioners from performing conversion therapy on minors under the age of 18.

2. Prohibits advertising for conversion therapy in New Mexico under the Unfair Practices Act.

**Conversion Therapy is Disputed & Opposed by:**

- American Academy of Nursing
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American College of Physicians
- American Medical Association
- Pan American Health Organization
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
- American Counseling Association
- American Psychiatric Association
- American Psychoanalytic Association
- American Psychological Association
- National Association of Social Workers
- World Psychiatric Association
- American Federation of Teachers
- National Education Association
- American School Counselor Association
- American School Health Association
- American Association of School Administrators
- National Association of School Psychologists
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- School Social Work Association of America
- Interfaith Alliance Foundation

8x more likely to report having attempted suicide

5x more likely to report high levels of depression

3x more likely to use drugs & report having unprotected sex
What Do New Mexicans Think?
Independent statewide polling conducted December 2016 by Third Eye Strategies

71% of New Mexicans support protecting New Mexico kids from conversion therapy

77% of Democrats polled
63% of Republicans polled
72% of people polled who give Governor Martinez a high favorability rating

Protecting New Mexico kids from harmful and discredited so-called therapy is not a partisan issue.

More Information
Linda Siegle
lsieg1e1@msn.com | 505-690-5850

Angie Poss
angie@eqnm.org | 505-720-5128

Amber Royster
amber@eqnm.org | 360-820-1485

ProtectNMKids.org

"[Conversion therapy practices] lack medical justification and represent a serious threat to the health and well-being of affected people."
Pan American Health Organization, Regional Office of the World Health Organization

#PROTECTNMKIDS