



Queer Youth Assemble One Pager

Prohibition of Medicaid Funding for Conversion Therapy Act ([HR2328](#) from 2021):

- **This bill requires an amendment to title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit payments under the Medicaid program for conversion therapy**
- Definition of Conversion Therapy directly from the bill:
 - any practice or treatment by any individual, partnership, corporation, cooperative, association, or any other entity that seeks to change another individual's sexual orientation or gender identity
- There are twenty-one states and four US territories that do not have any laws banning conversion therapy ¹
- This would not be a new bill. Instead, it would adjust the language of the existing [Social Security Act](#)
 - The adjustments would be to section 1903
- According to a study conducted by the Trevor Project, an estimated \$650 million dollars is spent yearly to administer conversion therapy ²
- Why is this needed?
 - There is a direct correlation to the traumatic experiences of conversion therapy for LGBTQIA+ youth and suicide idealization/attempts
 - A study conducted by the Williams Institute at UCLA found the following statistics for LGBTQIA+ individuals who experienced conversion therapy:
 - 92% greater odds of lifetime suicidal ideation
 - 75% greater odds of planning to attempt suicide
 - 88% greater odds of attempting suicide resulting in no or minor injury ³
 - This amendment to the Social Security Act will be a huge asset to addressing the mental health crisis in this country, and in particular, the LGBTQIA+ community.

1 MAP. (April 2023). *LGBTQ Youth: Conversion Therapy Laws*: <https://www.lgbtmap.org/img/maps/citations-conversion-therapy.pdf>

2 NBC. (March 2022). *Conversion therapy costs U.S. over \$9 billion a year, study finds*:
<https://www.nbcnews.com/nbc-out/out-news/conversion-therapy-costs-us-9-billion-year-study-finds-rcna19040>

3 Williams Institute at UCLA. (June 2020). *LGB people who have undergone conversion therapy almost twice as likely to attempt suicide*:
<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/press/lgb-suicide-ct-press-release/>

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