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
- 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
- Why is this needed?
  - There is a direct correlation to the traumatic experiences of conversion therapy for LGBT0IA+ youth and suicide idealization/attempts
    - A study conducted by the Williams Institute at UCLA found the following statistics for LGBT0IA+ 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
  - 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 LGBT0IA+ community.

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/lgbi-suicide-ct-press-release/

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