AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to behavioral and mental health; prohibiting the use of conversion therapy.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) As used in this section, "conversion therapy" means any practice or treatment that seeks to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity, including efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions or to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender. "Conversion therapy" does not include counseling that: Provides assistance to an individual undergoing gender transition; provides acceptance, support and understanding to an individual; or facilitates an individual's coping, social support and identity exploration and development, including sexual-orientation-neutral interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, so long as such counseling does not seek to change the individual's sexual orientation or gender identity.

(b) No physician licensed by the state board of healing arts who practices in the area of psychiatry shall perform conversion therapy with an individual under 18 years of age. Any practice of conversion therapy by such a physician with an individual under 18 years of age shall constitute unprofessional conduct and be subject to discipline by the state board of healing arts.

(c) No licensee of the behavioral sciences regulatory board shall practice conversion therapy with an individual under 18 years of age. Any practice of conversion therapy by such a licensee with an individual under 18 years of age shall constitute unprofessional conduct and be subject to discipline by the behavioral sciences regulatory board.

(d) This act shall not apply to any religious leader or official of any religious denomination when performing counseling services as part of such leader's or official's religious duties.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.