

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)
Subject: Submission concerning the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2019
Date: Wednesday, 8 January 2020 8:42:13 AM

Dear Secretary of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee,

We are greatly disturbed by the Queensland Government's plan to ban "conversion therapy" for homosexuals and those confused about their gender as part of the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2019. Under the guise of protecting people, this legislation will prohibit 'health service providers' reaching out to those suffering from this confusion who need and request help.

Of great concern is that the definition of a 'health service provider' (from the Health Ombudsman Act 2013) is simply an individual or entity that provides a health service. But this definition is completely circular and vague and could, in time, easily be construed by activist courts to include even charities, churches, and family members.

So, this ban not only prevents anyone helping homosexuals and the gender-confused, but even stops them seeking help themselves.

Instead of helping these poor people, who often suffer great mental and spiritual anguish, the proposed ban will infringe upon their freedoms as well as the freedoms of charitably minded individuals and organisations in Queensland.

Therefore, we urge the committee to recommend the government scrap this plan to ban "conversion therapy" because it will benefit no-one, and seriously infringe upon the rights of all Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely,

Peter and Heather Mitchelhill

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