



Legislative
Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 19-1129

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 19-0072	Date:	July 23, 2019
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Michaelson Jenet; Esgar Sen. Fenberg	Bill Status:	Signed into Law
		Fiscal Analyst:	Aaron Carpenter 303-866-4918 Aaron.Carpenter@state.co.us

Bill Topic: PROHIBIT CONVERSION THERAPY FOR A MINOR

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure (<i>minimal</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill prohibits a physician specializing in psychiatry or a licensed, certified, or registered mental health provider from performing conversion therapy on a patient under the age of 18. This bill will increase state workload on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Summary of Legislation

This bill prohibits the use of conversion therapy by physicians specializing in psychiatry and licensed, certified, or registered mental health providers on a patient under the age of 18. The bill defines conversion therapy as any practice that seeks to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity. This includes efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions, or eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions towards individuals of the same sex. It does not include treatments that provide acceptance, support, and understanding for the facilitation of an individual's coping, social support, and identity exploration or assistance to a person undergoing gender transitions. Use of conversion therapy is classified as unprofessional conduct and could result in disciplinary action by the appropriate licensing board.

State Expenditures

Starting in the FY 2019-20, the bill increases workload in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), and the Department of Personnel and Administration, as described below.

Department of Regulatory Agencies. This bill will increase workload for the professional boards that oversee the professions that the bill prohibits from using conversion therapy. Boards will need to provide outreach and education, conduct investigations, hold hearings, and take disciplinary action against any violators. The fiscal note assumes that regulated psychiatrists and mental health providers will have a high level of compliance and will not engage in prohibited practices. The workload increase is expected to be minimal and can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Department of Personnel and Administration. Workload will increase for the Office of Administrative Courts in the Department of Personal and Administration, to the extent that more complaints are referred by DORA. Because a high level of compliance is assumed, any increase in workload will be minimal.

Effective Date

This bill was signed into law by the Governor on May 31, 2019, and takes effect August 2, 2019, assuming no referendum petition is filed, except that sections 6, 7, 8, and 9 take effect on October 1, 2019.

State and Local Government Contacts

Judicial
Regulatory Agencies

Information Technology
Personnel

Law