

**HOUSE BILL No. 2258**

By Committee on Health and Human Services

2-1

1 AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; relating to behavioral and  
2 mental health; prohibiting certain licensed individuals from using  
3 conversion therapy on minors; amending K.S.A. 40-2,215, 40-2,216,  
4 65-2837 and 74-7507 and K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 65-1120 and repealing the  
5 existing sections.

6  
7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 New Section 1. (a) As used in this section:

9 (1) "Conversion therapy" means any practice or treatment that seeks  
10 to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity, including  
11 efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions or to eliminate or reduce  
12 sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same  
13 sex or gender.

14 (2) "Conversion therapy" does not include any practice or treatment  
15 that:

16 (A) Provides assistance to an individual undergoing gender transition;

17 (B) provides acceptance, support and understanding of an individual's  
18 sexual orientation or gender identity, including such individual's gender  
19 expressions or sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals  
20 of the same sex or gender; or

21 (C) facilitates an individual's coping, social support and identity  
22 exploration and development, including sexual orientation-neutral  
23 interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual  
24 practices, so long as such practice or treatment does not seek to change the  
25 individual's sexual orientation or gender identity.

26 (b) (1) The following licensees shall be prohibited from using  
27 conversion therapy on any individual under 18 years of age:

28 (A) Persons licensed by the state board of healing arts;

29 (B) persons licensed by the board of nursing; and

30 (C) persons licensed by the behavioral sciences regulatory board.

31 (2) Any practice of conversion therapy on any individual under 18  
32 years of age by any such licensee shall constitute unprofessional conduct  
33 and shall be subject to discipline by such licensee's respective regulatory  
34 board.

35 (3) The provisions of this subsection shall apply to delivery of  
36 telemedicine authorized by the Kansas telemedicine act under K.S.A. 40-

1 2,210 et seq., and amendments thereto.

2 (4) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the use of  
3 conversion therapy by a religious leader or official of any religious  
4 denomination that is:

5 (A) Part of such leader's or official's religious duties; and

6 (B) not performed under the authority of a license issued by any of  
7 the regulatory boards listed in paragraph (1).

8 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 40-2,215 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-  
9 2,215. Nothing in the Kansas telemedicine act shall be construed to  
10 authorize the delivery of ~~any abortion procedure~~ via telemedicine of:

11 (a) *Any abortion procedure; or*

12 (b) *conversion therapy, as defined in section 1, and amendments*  
13 *thereto, used on a minor.*

14 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 40-2,216 is hereby amended to read as follows: 40-  
15 2,216. If any provision of the Kansas telemedicine act, or the application  
16 thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid or unconstitutional  
17 by court order, then the remainder of the Kansas telemedicine act and the  
18 application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not  
19 be affected thereby and it shall be conclusively presumed that the  
20 legislature would have enacted the remainder of the Kansas telemedicine  
21 act without such invalid or unconstitutional provision, except that the  
22 provisions of K.S.A. ~~40-2,215~~ 40-2,215(a), and amendments thereto, are  
23 expressly declared to be nonseverable.

24 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 65-1120 is hereby amended to read as  
25 follows: 65-1120. (a) *Grounds for disciplinary actions.* The board may  
26 deny, revoke, limit or suspend any license or authorization to practice  
27 nursing as a registered professional nurse, as a licensed practical nurse, as  
28 an advanced practice registered nurse or as a registered nurse anesthetist  
29 that is issued by the board or applied for under this act, or may require the  
30 licensee to attend a specific number of hours of continuing education in  
31 addition to any hours the licensee may already be required to attend or  
32 may publicly or privately censure a licensee or holder of a temporary  
33 permit or authorization, if the applicant, licensee or holder of a temporary  
34 permit or authorization is found after a hearing:

35 (1) To be guilty of fraud or deceit in practicing nursing or in  
36 procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice nursing;

37 (2) to have been guilty of a felony or to have been guilty of a  
38 misdemeanor involving an illegal drug offense unless the applicant or  
39 licensee establishes sufficient rehabilitation to warrant the public trust,  
40 except that notwithstanding K.S.A. 74-120, and amendments thereto, no  
41 license or authorization to practice nursing as a licensed professional  
42 nurse, as a licensed practical nurse, as an advanced practice registered  
43 nurse or registered nurse anesthetist shall be granted to a person with a

1 felony conviction for a crime against persons as specified in article 34 of  
2 chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, prior to their repeal, or article  
3 54 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, or K.S.A. 2022 Supp.  
4 21-6104, 21-6325, 21-6326 or 21-6418, and amendments thereto;

5 (3) has been convicted or found guilty or has entered into an agreed  
6 disposition of a misdemeanor offense related to the practice of nursing as  
7 determined on a case-by-case basis;

8 (4) to have committed an act of professional incompetency as defined  
9 in subsection (e);

10 (5) to be unable to practice with skill and safety due to current abuse  
11 of drugs or alcohol;

12 (6) to be a person who has been adjudged in need of a guardian or  
13 conservator, or both, under the act for obtaining a guardian or conservator,  
14 or both, and who has not been restored to capacity under that act;

15 (7) to be guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined by rules and  
16 regulations of the board, *including the use of conversion therapy on a*  
17 *minor in violation of section 1, and amendments thereto*;

18 (8) to have willfully or repeatedly violated the provisions of the  
19 Kansas nurse practice act or any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to  
20 that act, including K.S.A. 65-1114 and 65-1122, and amendments thereto;

21 (9) to have a license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or as a  
22 practical nurse denied, revoked, limited or suspended, or to be publicly or  
23 privately censured, by a licensing authority of another state, agency of the  
24 United States government, territory of the United States or country or to  
25 have other disciplinary action taken against the applicant or licensee by a  
26 licensing authority of another state, agency of the United States  
27 government, territory of the United States or country. A certified copy of  
28 the record or order of public or private censure, denial, suspension,  
29 limitation, revocation or other disciplinary action of the licensing authority  
30 of another state, agency of the United States government, territory of the  
31 United States or country shall constitute prima facie evidence of such a  
32 fact for purposes of this paragraph~~(9)~~; or

33 (10) to have assisted suicide in violation of K.S.A. 21-3406, prior to  
34 its repeal, or K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5407, and amendments thereto, as  
35 established by any of the following:

36 (A) A copy of the record of criminal conviction or plea of guilty for a  
37 felony in violation of K.S.A. 21-3406, prior to its repeal, or K.S.A. 2022  
38 Supp. 21-5407, and amendments thereto;

39 (B) a copy of the record of a judgment of contempt of court for  
40 violating an injunction issued under K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 60-4404, and  
41 amendments thereto; *or*

42 (C) a copy of the record of a judgment assessing damages under  
43 K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 60-4405, and amendments thereto.

1 (b) *Proceedings*. Upon filing of a sworn complaint with the board  
2 charging a person with having been guilty of any of the unlawful practices  
3 specified in subsection (a), two or more members of the board shall  
4 investigate the charges, or the board may designate and authorize an  
5 employee or employees of the board to conduct an investigation. After  
6 investigation, the board may institute charges. If an investigation, in the  
7 opinion of the board, reveals reasonable grounds for believing the  
8 applicant or licensee is guilty of the charges, the board shall fix a time and  
9 place for proceedings, which shall be conducted in accordance with the  
10 provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act.

11 (c) *Witnesses*. No person shall be excused from testifying in any  
12 proceedings before the board under this act or in any civil proceedings  
13 under this act before a court of competent jurisdiction on the ground that  
14 such testimony may incriminate the person testifying, but such testimony  
15 shall not be used against the person for the prosecution of any crime under  
16 the laws of this state except the crime of perjury as defined in K.S.A. 2022  
17 Supp. 21-5903, and amendments thereto.

18 (d) *Costs*. If final agency action of the board in a proceeding under  
19 this section is adverse to the applicant or licensee, the costs of the board's  
20 proceedings shall be charged to the applicant or licensee as in ordinary  
21 civil actions in the district court, but if the board is the unsuccessful party,  
22 the costs shall be paid by the board. Witness fees and costs may be taxed  
23 by the board according to the statutes relating to procedure in the district  
24 court. All costs accrued by the board, when it is the successful party, and  
25 which the attorney general certifies cannot be collected from the applicant  
26 or licensee shall be paid from the board of nursing fee fund. All moneys  
27 collected following board proceedings shall be credited in full to the board  
28 of nursing fee fund.

29 (e) *Professional incompetency defined*. As used in this section,  
30 "professional incompetency" means:

31 (1) One or more instances involving failure to adhere to the  
32 applicable standard of care to a degree which constitutes gross negligence,  
33 as determined by the board;

34 (2) repeated instances involving failure to adhere to the applicable  
35 standard of care to a degree which constitutes ordinary negligence, as  
36 determined by the board; or

37 (3) a pattern of practice or other behavior which demonstrates a  
38 manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice nursing.

39 (f) *Criminal justice information*. The board upon request shall receive  
40 from the Kansas bureau of investigation such criminal history record  
41 information relating to arrests and criminal convictions as necessary for  
42 the purpose of determining initial and continuing qualifications of  
43 licensees of and applicants for licensure by the board.

1       Sec. 5. K.S.A. 65-2837 is hereby amended to read as follows: 65-  
2 2837. As used in K.S.A. 65-2836, and amendments thereto, and in this  
3 section:

4       (a) "Professional incompetency" means:

5       (1) One or more instances involving failure to adhere to the  
6 applicable standard of care to a degree that constitutes gross negligence, as  
7 determined by the board.

8       (2) Repeated instances involving failure to adhere to the applicable  
9 standard of care to a degree that constitutes ordinary negligence, as  
10 determined by the board.

11       (3) A pattern of practice or other behavior that demonstrates a  
12 manifest incapacity or incompetence to practice the healing arts.

13       (b) "Unprofessional conduct" means:

14       (1) ~~Solicitation of~~ *Soliciting* professional patronage through the use  
15 of fraudulent or false advertisements, or profiting by the acts of those  
16 representing themselves to be agents of the licensee.

17       (2) Representing to a patient that a manifestly incurable disease,  
18 condition or injury can be permanently cured.

19       (3) Assisting in the care or treatment of a patient without the consent  
20 of the patient, the attending physician or the patient's legal representatives.

21       (4) ~~The use of~~ *Using* any letters, words or terms as an affix, on  
22 stationery, in advertisements or otherwise indicating that such person is  
23 entitled to practice a branch of the healing arts for which such person is  
24 not licensed.

25       (5) Performing, procuring or aiding and abetting in the performance  
26 or procurement of a criminal abortion.

27       (6) ~~Willful betrayal of~~ *Willfully betraying* confidential information.

28       (7) Advertising professional superiority or the performance of  
29 professional services in a superior manner.

30       (8) Advertising to guarantee any professional service or to perform  
31 any operation painlessly.

32       (9) Participating in any action as a staff member of a medical care  
33 facility that is designed to exclude or that results in the exclusion of any  
34 person licensed to practice medicine and surgery from the medical staff of  
35 a nonprofit medical care facility licensed in this state because of the  
36 branch of the healing arts practiced by such person or without just cause.

37       (10) ~~Failure~~ *Failing* to effectuate the declaration of a qualified  
38 patient as provided in K.S.A. 65-28,107(a), and amendments thereto.

39       (11) Prescribing, ordering, dispensing, administering, selling,  
40 supplying or giving any amphetamines or sympathomimetic amines,  
41 except as authorized by K.S.A. 65-2837a, and amendments thereto.

42       (12) *Engaging in* conduct likely to deceive, defraud or harm the  
43 public.

1 (13) Making a false or misleading statement regarding the licensee's  
2 skill or the efficacy or value of the drug, treatment or remedy prescribed  
3 by the licensee or at the licensee's direction in the treatment of any disease  
4 or other condition of the body or mind.

5 (14) Aiding or abetting the practice of the healing arts by an  
6 unlicensed, incompetent or impaired person.

7 (15) Allowing another person or organization to use the licensee's  
8 license to practice the healing arts.

9 ~~(16) Commission of~~ *Committing* any act of sexual abuse,  
10 misconduct or other improper sexual contact that exploits the licensee-  
11 patient relationship with a patient or a person responsible for ~~health care~~  
12 *healthcare* decisions concerning such patient.

13 (17) The use of any false, fraudulent or deceptive statement in any  
14 document connected with the practice of the healing arts including the  
15 intentional falsifying or fraudulent altering of a patient or medical care  
16 facility record.

17 (18) Obtaining any fee by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

18 (19) Directly or indirectly giving or receiving any fee, commission,  
19 rebate or other compensation for professional services not actually and  
20 personally rendered, other than through the legal functioning of lawful  
21 professional partnerships, corporations, limited liability companies or  
22 associations.

23 ~~(20) Failure~~ *Failing* to transfer patient records to another licensee  
24 when requested to do so by the subject patient or by such patient's legally  
25 designated representative.

26 (21) Performing unnecessary tests, examinations or services that have  
27 no legitimate medical purpose.

28 (22) Charging an excessive fee for services rendered.

29 (23) Prescribing, dispensing, administering or distributing a  
30 prescription drug or substance, including a controlled substance, in an  
31 improper or inappropriate manner, or for other than a valid medical  
32 purpose, or not in the course of the licensee's professional practice.

33 ~~(24) Repeated failure~~ *Repeatedly failing* to practice healing arts  
34 with that level of care, skill and treatment that is recognized by a  
35 reasonably prudent similar practitioner as being acceptable under similar  
36 conditions and circumstances.

37 ~~(25) Failure~~ *Failing* to keep written medical records that accurately  
38 describe the services rendered to the patient, including patient histories,  
39 pertinent findings, examination results and test results.

40 (26) Delegating professional responsibilities to a person when the  
41 licensee knows or has reason to know that such person is not qualified by  
42 training, experience or licensure to perform them.

43 (27) Using experimental forms of therapy without proper informed

1 patient consent, without conforming to generally accepted criteria or  
2 standard protocols, without keeping detailed legible records or without  
3 having periodic analysis of the study and results reviewed by a committee  
4 or peers.

5 (28) Prescribing, dispensing, administering or distributing an anabolic  
6 steroid or human growth hormone for other than a valid medical purpose.  
7 Bodybuilding, muscle enhancement or increasing muscle bulk or strength  
8 through the use of an anabolic steroid or human growth hormone by a  
9 person who is in good health is not a valid medical purpose.

10 (29) Referring a patient to a ~~health care~~ *healthcare* entity for services  
11 if the licensee has a significant investment interest in the ~~health care~~  
12 *healthcare* entity, unless the licensee informs the patient in writing of such  
13 significant investment interest and that the patient may obtain such  
14 services elsewhere.

15 (30) Failing to properly supervise, direct or delegate acts that  
16 constitute the healing arts to persons who perform professional services  
17 pursuant to such licensee's direction, supervision, order, referral,  
18 delegation or practice protocols.

19 (31) Violating K.S.A. 65-6703, and amendments thereto.

20 (32) Charging, billing or otherwise soliciting payment from any  
21 patient, patient's representative or insurer for anatomic pathology services,  
22 if such services are not personally rendered by the licensee or under such  
23 licensee's direct supervision. As used in this subsection, "anatomic  
24 pathology services" means the gross or microscopic examination of  
25 histologic processing of human organ tissue or the examination of human  
26 cells from fluids, aspirates, washings, brushings or smears, including blood  
27 banking services, and subcellular or molecular pathology services,  
28 performed by or under the supervision of a person licensed to practice  
29 medicine and surgery or a clinical laboratory. Nothing in this subsection  
30 shall be construed to prohibit billing for anatomic pathology services by:

31 (A) A hospital;

32 (B) a clinical laboratory when samples are transferred between  
33 clinical laboratories for the provision of anatomic pathology services; or

34 (C) a physician providing services to a patient pursuant to a medical  
35 retainer agreement in compliance with K.S.A. 65-4978, and amendments  
36 thereto, when the bill to the patient for such services:

37 (i) Identifies the laboratory or physician that performed the services;

38 (ii) discloses in writing to the patient the actual amount charged by  
39 the physician or laboratory that performed the service; and

40 (iii) is consistent with rules and regulations adopted by the board for  
41 appropriate billing standards applicable to such services when furnished  
42 under these agreements.

43 (33) Engaging in conduct that violates patient trust and exploits the

1 licensee-patient relationship for personal gain.

2 (34) Obstructing a board investigation including, but not limited to,  
3 engaging in one or more of the following acts:

4 (A) Falsifying or concealing a material fact;

5 (B) knowingly making or causing to be made any false or misleading  
6 statement or writing; or

7 (C) other acts or conduct likely to deceive or defraud the board.

8 (35) *Using conversion therapy on a minor in violation of section 1,  
9 and amendments thereto.*

10 (c) "False advertisement" means any advertisement that is false,  
11 misleading or deceptive in a material respect. In determining whether any  
12 advertisement is misleading, there shall be taken into account not only  
13 representations made or suggested by statement, word, design, device,  
14 sound or any combination thereof, but also the extent to which the  
15 advertisement fails to reveal facts material in the light of such  
16 representations made.

17 (d) "Advertisement" means all representations disseminated in any  
18 manner or by any means for the purpose of inducing, or that are likely to  
19 induce, directly or indirectly, the purchase of professional services.

20 (e) "Licensee" for purposes of this section and K.S.A. 65-2836, and  
21 amendments thereto, means all persons issued a license, permit or special  
22 permit pursuant to article 28 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes  
23 Annotated, and amendments thereto.

24 (f) "License" for purposes of this section and K.S.A. 65-2836, and  
25 amendments thereto, means any license, permit or special permit granted  
26 under article 28 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and  
27 amendments thereto.

28 (g) "~~Health care~~Healthcare entity" means any corporation, firm,  
29 partnership or other business entity that provides services for diagnosis or  
30 treatment of human health conditions and that is owned separately from a  
31 referring licensee's principle practice.

32 (h) "Significant investment interest" means ownership of at least 10%  
33 of the value of the firm, partnership or other business entity that owns or  
34 leases the ~~health care~~ healthcare entity, or ownership of at least 10% of the  
35 shares of stock of the corporation that owns or leases the ~~health care~~  
36 healthcare entity.

37 Sec. 6. K.S.A. 74-7507 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-  
38 7507. (a) The behavioral sciences regulatory board shall have the  
39 following powers, duties and functions:

40 (1) Recommend to the appropriate district or county attorneys  
41 prosecution for violations of this act, the licensure of psychologists act of  
42 the state of Kansas, the professional counselors licensure act, the social  
43 workers licensure act, the licensure of master's level psychologists act, the



1 applied behavior analysis licensure act, the marriage and family therapists  
2 licensure act or the addiction counselor licensure act;

3 (2) compile and publish annually a list of the names and addresses of  
4 all persons who are licensed under this act, are licensed under the licensure  
5 of psychologists act of the state of Kansas, the professional counselors  
6 licensure act, the social workers licensure act, the licensure of master's  
7 level psychologists act, the applied behavior analysis licensure act, the  
8 marriage and family therapists licensure act or the addiction counselor  
9 licensure act;

10 (3) prescribe the form and contents of examinations required under  
11 this act, the licensure of psychologists act of the state of Kansas, the  
12 professional counselors licensure act, the social workers licensure act, the  
13 licensure of master's level psychologists act, the applied behavior analysis  
14 licensure act, the marriage and family therapists licensure act or the  
15 addiction counselor licensure act;

16 (4) enter into contracts necessary to administer this act, the licensure  
17 of psychologists act of the state of Kansas, the professional counselors  
18 licensure act, the social workers licensure act, the licensure of master's  
19 level psychologists act, the applied behavior analysis licensure act, the  
20 marriage and family therapists licensure act or the addiction counselor  
21 licensure act;

22 (5) adopt an official seal;

23 (6) adopt and enforce rules and regulations for professional conduct  
24 of persons licensed under the licensure of psychologists act of the state of  
25 Kansas, the professional counselors licensure act, the social workers  
26 licensure act, the licensure of master's level psychologists act, the applied  
27 behavior analysis licensure act, the marriage and family therapists  
28 licensure act or the addiction counselor licensure act;

29 (7) adopt and enforce rules and regulations establishing requirements  
30 for the continuing education of persons licensed under the licensure of  
31 psychologists act of the state of Kansas, the professional counselors  
32 licensure act, the social workers licensure act, the licensure of master's  
33 level psychologists act, the applied behavior analysis licensure act, the  
34 marriage and family therapists licensure act or the addiction counselor  
35 licensure act;

36 (8) adopt rules and regulations establishing classes of social work  
37 specialties which will be recognized for licensure under K.S.A. 65-6301 ~~to~~  
38 *through* 65-6318, ~~inclusive~~, and amendments thereto;

39 (9) adopt rules and regulations establishing procedures for  
40 examination of candidates for licensure under the licensure of  
41 psychologists act of the state of Kansas, the professional counselors  
42 licensure act, the social workers licensure act, the licensure of master's  
43 level psychologists act, the applied behavior analysis licensure act, the

1 marriage and family therapists licensure act, the addiction counselor  
 2 licensure act and for issuance of such certificates and such licenses;

3 (10) adopt rules and regulations as may be necessary for the  
 4 administration of this act, the licensure of psychologists act of the state of  
 5 Kansas, the professional counselors licensure act, the social workers  
 6 licensure act, the licensure of master's level psychologists act, the applied  
 7 behavior analysis licensure act, the marriage and family therapists  
 8 licensure act and the addiction counselor licensure act and to carry out the  
 9 purposes thereof;

10 (11) appoint an executive director and other employees as provided in  
 11 K.S.A. 74-7501, and amendments thereto; and

12 (12) exercise such other powers and perform such other functions and  
 13 duties as may be prescribed by law.

14 (b) *Any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this section*  
 15 *concerning professional conduct shall prohibit the use of conversion*  
 16 *therapy on a minor that would be in violation of section 1, and*  
 17 *amendments thereto.*

18 (c) If an order of the behavioral sciences regulatory board is adverse  
 19 to a licensee or registrant of the board, the actual costs shall be charged to  
 20 such person as in ordinary civil actions in the district court. The board  
 21 shall pay any additional costs and, if the board is the unsuccessful party,  
 22 the costs shall be paid by the board. Witness fees and costs may be taxed  
 23 in accordance with statutes governing taxation of witness fees and costs in  
 24 the district court.

25 Sec. 7. K.S.A. 40-2,215, 40-2,216, 65-2837 and 74-7507 and K.S.A.  
 26 2022 Supp. 65-1120 are hereby repealed.

27 Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
 28 publication in the statute book.