January 20, 2016

State Representative Massachusetts State House Boston, MA 02133

RE: Bill H97 – The Anti-Therapy Bill

Dear Representative

I am writing to you regarding the bill inappropriately titled An Act Relative to Abusive Practices to Change Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Minors. This bill would severely penalize medical professionals for treating minors with unwanted sexual attractions under the assertion that such feelings are part of their "core identity," when in fact **no genetic component to homosexuality has ever been found.** In fact, LGBT activists use such words as "questioning" and "fluid" in their own literature when describing changes in sexual identities and feelings.

If passed, the law would prevent individuals from choosing their own goals in therapy and it would violate the constitutional rights of parents, which have been eroding at an alarming speed through such legislative measures.

The bill implies that anything other than LGBT affirming counseling is unethical. Some have even suggested that such techniques as electric shock therapy and other abusive practices are being used, which is completely erroneous. Sexual Orientation Change Effort (SOCE) is talk therapy that helps individuals work through confusing or traumatic experiences that have caused unwanted feelings and behaviors. I have personally met many ex-homosexuals who are currently leading satisfying heterosexual lives thanks to successful treatment, (see pfox.org).

Although the identical twins studies show conclusively that people are not "born gay," and numerous other studies spanning decades have concluded that negative childhood experiences, such as **abusive parenting, excessive bullying by same gendered peers, childhood sexual abuse and exposure to pornography are known to influence the development of a homosexuality identity and other sexual identity issues** (see narth.com), it is widely believed that people are "born that way." This is the result of a very successful marketing and psychological reconditioning strategies created a few decades ago by Marshall Kirk, Hunter Madsen, Kevin Jennings and others using the media, Hollywood, the legislature and the American public school system to **change public perception based on lies and manipulation**. This plan continues to be carried out by such organizations as the Human Rights Campaign, the LGBT Task Force, GLADD and GLSEN. **There are many victims of this propaganda war, the most vulnerable being sexually confused children and adolescents.**

This law would prevent these young people from receiving the therapy they need to overcome childhood traumas and would instead only allow therapies that would encourage feelings and behaviors that have developed from them. Would we ever encourage a child to accept their anorexia? Would we tell them that to overcome the distress that makes then not feel like eating,

they only need to conquer their internal anorexiphobia? Affirming therapies stress the need to overcome "internal homophobia," a hijacked term that once meant something entirely different.

We would not because anorexia is linked to negative childhood experiences causing behaviors and feelings that are physically and psychologically harmful to the individual experiencing this condition.

Likewise, homosexual thoughts and behaviors lead to unstable and multiple relationships throughout their lives, a 25 to 30 year decrease in life expectancy, chronic and potentially fatal liver disease, infectious hepatitis and risk of liver cancer, HIV/AIDS and other immune diseases and associated cancers, fatal rectal cancer, multiple bowel and other infectious diseases, depression, anxiety, thoughts of suicide, higher than average rates of alcoholism drug addiction and other mental health issues (see the Center of Disease Control website, which also consistently shows that only 2% of the population is LGBT, as opposed to the 10% figure propagated by the activist community).

I am writing to you as the mother of a son who was seeing a therapist for childhood experiences that can lead to homosexuality long before he ever told us he was experiencing same sex attraction. LGBT activists who gained access to him through his high school guidance counselor, without our knowledge or consent, not only convinced him to quit seeing the counselor our pediatrician had referred us to, but also provided him with sexually provocative materials and literature that contradicted our values and faith. They told him we were intolerant, haters and homophobes and attempted to psychologically and physically separate him from us, causing extreme emotional pain to an already hurting teenager at a fragile point in his social and emotional development. Professional therapists and loving parents are not the ones hurting these minors with "abusive practices."

The American College of Pediatricians critically examined the commonly referenced research studies used to support the ban of SOCE and found serious flaws in these biased studied. They concluded that "science does not support laws that prohibit minors with unwanted homosexual attraction from receiving psychotherapy in accordance with their personal goals and values."

I vehemently plead with you to reject this Bill H97 and give these children a fighting chance to overcome damaging childhood experiences so they can avoid a lifetime of psychological pain and serious health issues. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[D.V.]