

**SENATE . . . . . No. 62**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Mark C. Montigny***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to abusive practices to change sexual orientation and gender identity in minors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2017</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>1/24/2017</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>1/27/2017</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2017</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Juana B. Matias</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/21/2017</i>
<i>Cynthia Stone Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/6/2017</i>
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>	<i>6/5/2017</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>6/13/2017</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 62**

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By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 62) of Mark C. Montigny, Jack Lewis, Kay Khan, Lori A. Ehrlich and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to abusive practices to change sexual orientation and gender identity in minors. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to abusive practices to change sexual orientation and gender identity in minors.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official  
2 addition, is hereby amended by adding the following new section:-

3           Section 266. (a) Definitions.

4           For the purposes of this section, “licensed professional” means any licensed medical,  
5 mental health, or human service professional licensed under Chapter 112, including any  
6 psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker, psychiatric nurse, allied mental health and human  
7 services professional, licensed marriage and family therapist, licensed rehabilitation counselor,  
8 licensed mental health counselor, licensed educational psychologist, or any of their respective  
9 interns or trainees, or any other person designated or licensed as a mental health or human  
10 service professional under Massachusetts law or regulation.

11           The term “sexual orientation” shall mean having an orientation for or being identified as  
12 having an orientation for heterosexuality, bisexuality, or homosexuality.

13           The term "Gender identity" shall mean a person's gender-related identity, appearance or  
14 behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from  
15 that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth. Gender-related  
16 identity may be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care  
17 or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related  
18 identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held as part of a  
19 person's core identity; provided, however, that gender-related identity shall not be asserted for  
20 any improper purpose.

21           “Sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts” means any practice by a licensed  
22 professional that attempts or purports to impose change of an individual’s sexual orientation or  
23 gender identity, including but not limited to efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions, or  
24 to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same  
25 sex. The term “sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts” does not include practices:

26           (A)(1) to provide acceptance, support, and understanding of an individual’s sexual  
27 orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; (2) facilitate an individual’s coping, social  
28 support, and identity exploration and development; or (3) that are sexual orientation-neutral or  
29 gender identity-neutral including interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe  
30 sexual practices; and

31           (B) Do not attempt or purport to impose change of an individual’s sexual orientation or  
32 gender identity.

33 (b) Under no circumstances shall a licensed professional advertise for or engage in sexual  
34 orientation and gender identity change efforts with a patient less than 18 years of age. Any  
35 licensed professional violating this prohibition shall be such subject to discipline by the  
36 appropriate licensing board, which may include suspension or revocation of license.

37 (c) Whoever violates this section shall be considered to have violated section 2 of chapter  
38 93A. Any such claim brought under this section shall be subject to sections 5A and 7 of chapter  
39 260.

40 SECTION 2. (a) Subsection (a) of Section 51A of chapter 119 of the General Laws, as  
41 appearing in the 2010 Official addition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “chapter  
42 233” the following words:-

43 or (vi) being subjected to sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts as defined  
44 by section 169 of chapter 112

45 (b) Section 51A of chapter 119 is further amended in subsection (i) after the word  
46 “family.” by adding the following words:-

47 Any report including licensed professionals engaging in sexual orientation and gender  
48 identity change efforts as defined under section 169 of chapter 112 shall be filed within 30 days  
49 to the appropriate licensing board for review and possible suspension or revocation of license.