

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING UNITED STATES SENATE BILL 928 (S. 928), AND RELATED HOUSE BILL 2119 (H.R. 2119), CREATING THE THERAPEUTIC FRAUD PREVENTION ACT OF 2017, WHICH WOULD IMPOSE A NATIONWIDE PROHIBITION ON COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ORIENTATION CONVERSION THERAPY AS AN UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACT OR PRACTICE; AND, FURTHER, ADDING S. 928 AND H.R. 2119 TO THE CITY'S LIST OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES.**

**WHEREAS**, on April 25, 2017, the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2017 (S. 928) was introduced in the United States Senate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (2017-2018) by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) with 22 co-sponsors, and related House Bill 2119 (H.R. 2119) was introduced in the United States House of Representatives by Representative Ted Lieu (D-CA-33) with 79 co-sponsors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2017 (Act) would impose a nationwide prohibition on commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy as an unfair or deceptive act or practice and would be enforced by the Federal Trade Commission and by the Attorneys General, or other authorized officers, of the States; and

**WHEREAS**, in the Act, Congress makes the following findings:

1. Being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender nonconforming is not a disorder, disease, illness, deficiency, or shortcoming.
2. The national community of professionals in education, social work, health, mental health, and counseling has determined that there is no scientifically valid evidence that supports the practice of attempting to prevent a person from being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender nonconforming.
3. Such professionals have determined that there is no evidence that conversion therapy is effective or that an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity can be changed by conversion therapy.
4. Such professionals have also determined that the potential risks of conversion therapy are not only that it is ineffective, but also that it is substantially dangerous to an individual's mental and physical health, and has been shown to contribute to depression, self-harm, low self-esteem, family rejection, and suicide.

5. It is in the interest of the Nation to prevent lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and gender nonconforming people and their families from being defrauded by persons seeking to profit by offering this harmful and wholly ineffective therapy; and

**WHEREAS**, as a leader in adopting legislation supporting the rights of the LGBTQ community, and in adopting policies of inclusiveness, the City of Miami Beach was the second city in the nation to adopt a local ordinance banning conversion therapy by prohibiting licensed professionals from engaging in counseling efforts, practices, or treatments with the goal of changing a minor's sexual orientation or gender identity, except when such counseling provides support for minors undergoing gender transition or when such counseling provides social support, identity exploration, and identity development; and

**WHEREAS**, currently, only a few states, including California, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, and Vermont, as well as the District of Columbia, have adopted legislation banning or restricting conversion therapy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and the City Commission of the City of Miami Beach support United States Senate Bill 928 and related House Bill 2119 which would create a nationwide ban on conversion therapy for persons of all ages.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA**, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby support United States Senate Bill 928, and related House Bill 2119, creating the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2017, which would impose a nationwide prohibition on commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy as an unfair or deceptive act or practice; and, further, hereby add Senate Bill 928 and House Bill 2119 to the City's list of Federal legislative priorities.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of May, 2017.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Philip Levine, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO  
FORM & LANGUAGE  
& FOR EXECUTION

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

5/4/17  
Date