



400 South Federal Hwy  
Hallandale Beach, FL 33009

## City of Hallandale Beach City Commission Agenda Cover Memo

|  |                              |           |   |                           |                  |                    |           |
|--|------------------------------|-----------|---|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| <b>Meeting Date:</b>                               | October 5, 2016              |           | <b>Item Type:</b><br>(Enter X in box)   | <b>Resolution</b><br>X    | <b>Ordinance</b> | <b>Other</b>       |           |
| <b>Fiscal Impact:</b><br>(Enter X in box)          | <b>Yes</b>                   | <b>No</b> | <b>Ordinance Reading:</b><br>(Enter X in box)   | <b>1st Reading</b>        |                  | <b>2nd Reading</b> |           |
|  |                              | X         | <b>Public Hearing:</b><br>(Enter X in box)  | <b>Yes</b>                | <b>No</b>        | <b>Yes</b>         | <b>No</b> |
| <b>Funding Source:</b>                             | N/A                          |           | <b>Advertising Requirement:</b><br>(Enter X in box)   | <b>Yes</b>                |                  | <b>No</b>          |           |
|  |                              |           |   |                           |                  | X                  |           |
| <b>Account Balance:</b>                            | N/A                          |           | <b>Quasi Judicial:</b><br>(Enter X in box)  | <b>Yes</b>                |                  | <b>No</b>          |           |
|  |                              |           |   |                           |                  | X                  |           |
| <b>Project Number :</b>                            | N/A                          |           | <b>RFP/RFQ/Bid Number:</b>  | N/A                       |                  |                    |           |
| <b>Contract/P.O. Required:</b><br>(Enter X in box) | <b>Yes</b>                   | <b>No</b> | <b>Strategic Plan Priority Area:</b> (Enter X in box)<br><br><b>Safety</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br><b>Quality</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>Vibrant Appeal</b> <input type="checkbox"/> |                           |                  |                    |           |
|  |                              | X         |   |                           |                  |                    |           |
| <b>Sponsor Name:</b>                               | Commissioner Michele Lazarow |           | <b>Department:</b>  | Mayor and City Commission |                  |                    |           |

### Short Title:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HALLANDALE BEACH, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 456.064 FLORIDA STATUTES PROHIBITING THE USE OF CONVERSION THERAPY ON MINORS AND COMMENDING THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS AND SIMILAR CITIES WHO HAVE ADOPTED ORDINANCES PROHIBITING THE PRACTICE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

### Staff Summary:

### Background:

With the Consensus of the City Commission, During the September 7, 2016 City Commission Meeting Commissioner Lazarow requested an Agenda Item urging the Florida Legislation to enact an amendment to Section 456.064 of the Florida Statutes to prohibit the use of Conversion Therapy on youths under the age of eighteen (18).

Conversion therapy is defined as being any counseling, practice, or treatment performed with the goal of changing a person's sexual orientation or gender identity which includes efforts to change behavior, gender expression and attraction towards the same gender.

Senator Clemens and Representative Richardson introduced bills in the Florida Senate and House of Representatives which, if adopted, would have prohibited licensed professional counselors, licensed under the provisions regulating the practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine, psychology, clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, or mental health counseling from practicing or performing conversion therapy with an individual who is younger than the age of eighteen (18). Both bills died in the Health policy committee and was never enacted

The American Psychiatric Association previously published a position statement in December 1998 opposing any psychiatric treatment, including reparative or conversion therapy, which is based upon the assumption that homosexuality per se is a mental disorder or that a patient should change his or her homosexual orientation. And the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry published a statement in 2012, in its journal that "given that there is no evidence that efforts to alter sexual orientation are effective, beneficial or necessary, and the possibility that they carry the risk of significant harm, such interventions are contraindicated."

The State of Florida has a compelling interest in protecting physical and psychological well-being of minors, including those who are members of the LGBTQ community, and in protecting these minors from exposure to serious harm caused by sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts

By approval of the attached Resolution, the Commission would strongly urge the members of the state legislature to enact an amendment to Section 456.064 of the Florida Statutes to prohibit the use of Conversion Therapy on youths under the age of eighteen (18).

**Why Action is Necessary:**

Pursuant to Article V, Section 5.01 of the City of Hallandale Beach Charter, a Resolution adopted by the Commission is an expression of the Commission on matters of official concern and opinion.

**Proposed Action:**

The City Commission consider the attached Resolution strongly urge the members of the state legislature to enact an amendment to Section 456.064 of the Florida Statutes to prohibit the use of Conversion Therapy on youths under the age of eighteen (18).

**Attachment(s):**

Exhibit 1 - Resolution

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