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Wisconsin Psychological Association

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March 27, 2025

To the Wisconsin State Senate Committee on Government Operations, Labor, and Economic Development:

We are responding to 2025 Assembly Bill 104 / Senate Bill 157, relating to the prohibition of gender transition medical intervention for individuals under 18 years of age. The Wisconsin Psychological Association opposes this bill based on the current scientific literature in our field. This bill seeks to eliminate access to gender affirming medical care for youth, which should be a decision made by the patient, their provider(s), and caregiver(s). Further, it seeks to punish providers, including Psychologists, for making referrals for gender-affirming medical care. This conflicts with important ethical principles that guide Psychologists' work.

Please see the linked documents below from the American Psychological Association that explain how legislation such as this contradicts current psychological science, undermines ethical principles, and may increase psychological distress for patients and their families.

Thank you for taking the time to review the accompanying documents. We appreciate your interest in learning more about the current state of psychological science and our practice standards as psychologists. We are happy to discuss any of these items further.

Supporting Documents

APA Policy Statement on Affirming Evidence-Based Inclusive Care for Transgender, Gender Diverse, and Nonbinary Individuals, Addressing Misinformation, and the Role of Psychological Practice and Science <u>https://www.apa.org/about/policy/transgender-nonbinary-inclusive-care.pdf</u>

APA Resolution on Opposing Discriminatory Laws, Policies, and Practices Aimed at LGBTQ+ Persons https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-opposing-discriminatory-laws.pdf

APA Resolution on Gender Identity Change Efforts https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-gender-identity-change-efforts.pdf



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Sincerely,

Kim Skerven, PhD, ABPP on behalf of the Wisconsin Psychological Association 6737 West Washington Street, Suite 4210 Milwaukee, WI 53214