



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

John A. Mirisch, Mayor

August 8, 2019

The Honorable Ted Lieu
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: H.R. 3570, Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act
City of Beverly Hills - SUPPORT

Dear Representative Lieu:

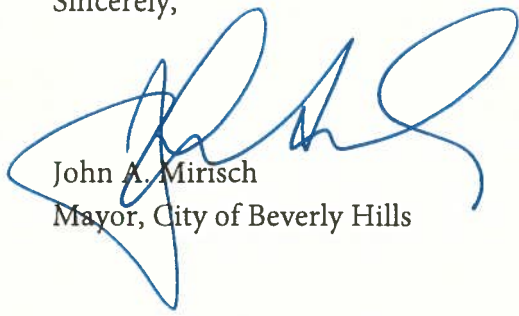
The City of Beverly Hills is pleased to **SUPPORT H.R. 3570**, the Therapeutic Fraud Prevention Act of 2019. This important legislative initiative protects thousands of young men and women from the harmful practice and treatment of therapeutic conversion.

According to the UCLA School of Law's Williams Institute, approximately 698,000 LGBTQ people in the United States have been subjected to conversation therapy with another 16,000 LGBTQ teens potentially in harms' way. A slew of professional medical and mental health organizations such as the American Psychoanalytic Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics echo your legislative findings that conversion therapy is nothing more than a discredited fraud perpetrated on one of the most vulnerable populations in our society. The damage left in the wake of such treatments are all too real involving anxiety, substance abuse, low self-esteem, homelessness and, tragically, suicide. We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to this form of abuse.

By calling out for-profit therapeutic conversion services as fraudulent and subject to punitive action by the Federal Trade Commission, **H.R. 3570** takes an important step in dismantling this cottage industry. While I understand there may be a legal rationale for limiting the bill's mandate to for-profit organizations, I urge you to consider adding non-profit organizations as well. People who are unfortunate enough to be exposed to such practices and treatment suffer harm irrespective of whether the organizations perpetrating this fraudulent act are for-profit or not.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is pleased to **SUPPORT** your **H.R. 3570**. Thank you again for your leadership and commitment in tackling this important and urgent issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John A. Mirisch', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

John A. Mirisch
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills