

October 8, 2019

Mayor Treece and City Council Members  
City of Columbia  
701 E. Broadway  
Columbia MO 65201

Dear Mayor and City Council,

The Youth Advisory Council is writing in support of your recent action to ban practicing conversion therapy on minors in Columbia at the October 7, 2019 Council meeting.

Conversion therapy causes irreparable harm, both mental and physical, to LGBTQ people. Minors are particularly vulnerable to conversion therapy and discriminated against merely due to their sexual orientation. As stated by the Human Rights Commission, conversion therapy has been rejected by every mainstream medical and mental health organization. The Youth Advisory Council fully supports the City of Columbia's ban on conversion therapy for minors and hopes that other Missouri cities follow Columbia's lead.

We appreciate your action on this item.

Sincerely,

Youth Advisory Council