

**CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL  
DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 20-020**

**AN ORDINANCE ENACTING SECTION 33.04 OF THE WEST ST. PAUL CITY CODE  
REGARDING THE PROHIBITION OF CONVERSION THERAPY FOR MINORS**

The City of West Saint Paul does ordain:

**SECTION 1. ENACTMENT.** West St. Paul City Code Section 33.04 relating to the prohibition of conversion therapy for minors is hereby enacted as follows:

**§ 33.04 PROHIBITION OF CONVERSION THERAPY FOR MINORS BY LICENSED PROVIDERS**

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of this Section is to protect the physical and psychological well-being of minors, including LGBTQ minors, from the harm caused by conversion therapy.

(B) *Definitions.* The following definitions apply to this section:

**CONVERSION THERAPY** means any practice or treatment by a provider that seeks to change an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity, including efforts to change behaviors or gender expressions or to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same gender. Conversion therapy does not include counseling that provides support and assistance to a person undergoing gender transition, or counseling that provides acceptance, support, and understanding of a person or facilitates a person's coping, social support, identity exploration, development, including sexual orientation and gender identity, and neutral interventions to prevent or address unlawful conduct or unsafe sexual practices, if such counseling is not conducted with the goal of changing the person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

**GENDER EXPRESSION** means a person's expression of gender identity through appearance and behavior, including how an individual believes that they are perceived by others.

**GENDER IDENTITY** means a person's sense of self as a woman, man, another gender, or genderless.

**MINOR** means any person under eighteen (18) years of age.

**PROVIDER** means an individual who is licensed, certified, or registered under the laws of the State of Minnesota, including mental health practitioners and mental health professionals as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Section 245.462, to provide mental health services. Providers include mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, social workers, physicians, psychologists, psychotherapists, chemical dependency professions, and their associates. A

provider does not include members of the clergy who are acting in their roles as clergy or pastoral counselors and providing religious counseling to congregants.

**SEXUAL ORIENTATION** means a component of identity that includes a person's sexual and emotional attraction to another person and the behavior and/or social affiliation that may result from this attraction.

*(C) Prohibited Practices.* It shall be unlawful for any provider to provide conversion therapy to a minor within the City limits.

*(D) Enforcement.* Violations of this Section are punishable by Administrative Citations as defined in Section 10.98.

**SECTION 2. SUMMARY PUBLICATION.** Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 412.191, in the case of a lengthy ordinance, a summary may be published. While a copy of the entire ordinance is available without cost at the office of the City Clerk, the following summary is approved by the City Council and shall be published in lieu of publishing the entire ordinance:

This ordinance prohibits conversion therapy by licensed providers for minors within City limits.

**SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication according to law.

Passed by the City Council of the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.

Attest:

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David J. Napier, Mayor

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Shirley R Buecksler, City Clerk