Trans Rights Webinar: What to Know and What to do About it!

Hosted by:
Hurtado Counseling
Presentation by:
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TRANS
RIGHTS
ARE
HUMAN
RIGHTS

I. This is a Living Presentation

- This google slides presentation was originally presented on May 13th, 2023 from 12pm-2pm.
- As things continue to evolve (for better and for worse) we will do our best to keep this document up-to-date.
- If you have any questions regarding specific laws (especially any which get proposed/passed after the date of the original presentation) please feel free to reach out to me at <u>Michael@hurtadocounseling.com</u>
- Anything with the UPDATE text before it is something that was added after the initial presentation date.

Agenda

- I. Introduction/Welcome
- II. Current Legislation Already Passed
- III. Legislation Currently in the Senate or House
- IV. How to be a Safe (Self) Advocate
- V. Helpful Resources
- VI. Questions, Comments, and Concerns

I. Welcome!

- Before we begin, please understand, this is a safe space for all identities! We are going to be discussing difficult and potentially distressing topics, please feel free to take a break or leave as needed.
- We will do our best to answer questions as we go, but if we do not get to you in the moment, hold on to the end for further questions.
 - If you have a question, please use the "Raise Hand" feature on Zoom.
- This presentation is not designed to all-inclusive, but rather a general overview of the laws passed and proposed, and what we can do to keep ourselves or our transgender loved ones safe.
- DISCLAIMER: This meeting is being recorded for anyone who cannot make it that may benefit from this information. It will be posted to the Hurtado Counseling website. If you are not comfortable with this, please act accordingly. Names will be removed and replaced with "Participant" instead of your name.

I. Your Presentation Hosts:

- Tyne Hurtado, LMHC, NCC, Q.S
 - She/her/hers pronouns
 - Founder and Owner of Hurtado Counseling
 - 10+Years Experience
 - Ally of the queer community
- Michael K. Mueller, MA, RMHCI
 - they/them/theirs or she/her/hers pronouns
 - 2.5 years counseling the LGBTQIA+ community
 - Current counselor at Hurtado Counseling and SPEKTRUM Health, previously worked for Zebra Coalition
 - Non-Binary Transgender Woman





I. Important Vocabulary

- Cisgender: Anyone whose gender identity matches their sex assigned at birth. Frequently shortened to "cis".
 - Ex: A Cisgender Woman, a Cis Man
- Transgender: Anyone whose gender identity does NOT match their sex assigned at birth. Frequently shortened to "trans".
 - Ex: A Transgender Man, a Trans Person. Note: "transgendered" is not considered appropriate or grammatically correct.
- Non-Binary: Anyone whose gender identity falls outside of the male/female binary. Can include agender, genderfluid/genderqueer, demigender, and others.
- Intersex: Someone who's biological sex characteristics assigned at birth fall outside of the male/female binary. This can include differences in genital structure, hormone levels, chromosomal differences, and others.

I. Important Vocabulary

- HRT: Hormone Replacement Therapy, also sometimes called GAT (Gender-Affirming Treatment) or GAHT (Gender-Affirming Hormone Treatment). The medical process of providing testosterone or estrogen + a testosterone blocker to induce puberty.
- PB (Puberty Blockers): Medication that delays puberty without preventing it or causing any significant changes to the body. Research is still ongoing, but so far no major long term risks or consequences have been shown.
- Ordered Enrolled: refers to a bill which has passed the house but not the senate. If the senate amends the bill, it returns to the house for further debate. If not, it is sent to the governor to sign.
 - Ordered Engrossed: same deal, but having been certified by both the senate and the house and printed as the final copy of the bill.

I. Important Vocabulary

- Critical Theory: Often expanded into Critical Race Theory (CRT), Critical Gender Theory, and others. A philosophy which posits that societal issues have less to do with prejudiced individuals and more to do with prejudice in systems which unfairly target marginalized people.
- Civil Disobedience: A historically important form of protest in which a citizen refuses to obey certain laws, demands, orders, or commands from a government or other authority.
 - Famously used by Martin Luther King Jr. and others in resisting the Jim Crow laws.
- Malicious Compliance: Following a rule so closely or to the letter so as to cause a negative outcome or consequence.

- Parental Rights in Education Act (HB 1557) "Don't Say Gay":
 - Signed into law March 28th, 2022, went into effect July 1st, 2022
 - Prevents "having" or "giving" "classroom discussion" of "gender identity" and "sexual orientation" for any student K-3 or any topic deemed against state standards for that age.
 - Forces public schools to take on the burden of ALL legal fees in ANY case where a parent brings ANY grievance forward.
 - Prevents schools from passing any rules protecting the confidentiality of students disclosing non-cis or non-hetero identities.
 - Recently expanded to 12th grade by the Florida Board of Education
 - HB 1223, currently dead in committee, sought to increase this to 8th grade

- Individual Freedom Act/Stop Wrong to Our Kids and Employees Act (HB 7)
 "Stop W.O.K.E. Act"
 - Signed into law April 22nd, 2022, went into effect July 1st, 2022
 - Currently under injunction preventing enforcement in higher education by U.S. District Judge Mark E. Walker
 - Prohibits content in instruction and training that "subjects" individuals to sharing responsibility for past actions by virtue of race, sex, or national origin
- Parents' Bill of Rights (HB 241)
 - Signed into law July 29th, 2021, went into effect July 1st 2021
 - The "state" or any other "governmental entity" cannot infringe upon the "fundamental rights" of parents to raise a "minor child"
 - Functionally, this empowers parents to hold "governmental entities" accountable for doing things they disagree with, including but not limited to parents who "disagree" with LGBTQ topics.

- Fairness in Women's Sports Act (SB 2012/HB 1475/SB 1028)
 - Signed into Law June 1st, 2021, effective immediately.
 - SB 2012 and HB 1475 both failed, but ultimately had their language included in SB 1028, a more widely encompassing education bill.
 - SB 1028 bans participation from sports based on Assigned Sex at Birth, but does not require
 genital inspections as the original versions did.
- UPDATE: Postsecondary Educational Institutions/Higher Education (HB 999/SB 266) "Anti-DEI/CRT Bill"
 - Passed the House and Senate as of May 3rd, 2023. Not currently signed into law.
 Once signed, goes into effect July 1st, 2023. Ordered enrolled.
 - Prevents the teaching of "identity politics" or that "systemic racism, sexism, oppression, and privilege are inherent in the institutions of the United States and were created to maintain social, political, and economic inequities."
 - Gives university presidents more power and reduces power of faculty review in hiring, providing or removing tenure, and more.
 - Prevents use of state funds for diversity and inclusion initiatives (DEI).

- **UPDATE**: Treatments for Sex Reassignment/Gender Clinical Interventions (SB 254/HB 1421)
 - Signed into law May 17th, 2023. Effective Immediately.
 - Allows parents currently without custody due to a custody agreement or parenting plan
 to make a custody claim if the child in question is receiving or "under threat of receiving"
 gender affirming care (PB or HRT). Opens the door to litigation abuse.
 - Limits who can and who can't provide HRT.
 - Only specially licensed MDs and DOs will be able to provide it. Nurse Practitioners and other non-doctor prescribers will be unable. These groups of non-doctors make up approximately 80% of all trans healthcare in Florida.
 - Providing HRT to a minor without the proper licensing is a felony. Misdemeanor for an adult.
 - Further bans any provider from providing GAT via telehealth, and requires that very strict informed consent be determined at every single appointment.
 - Board of Medicine and Board of Osteopathic Medicine have 60 days to meet to determine path forward for minors currently on HRT.
 - Based on this decision, may limit professional counseling services for gender-affirming care to board-certified psychiatrists or psychologists.
 - All licensed healthcare facilities that do not provide gender-affirming care to minors must provide a statement. Failure results in loss of license to practice.

- UPDATE: Protections of Medical Conscience (SB 1580) "Let Them Die Act"
 - Signed into law May 12th, 2023. Effective July 1st, 2023.
 - Gives medical providers (Doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, pharmacists, mental health professionals, lab techs, nursing home workers, and hospital administrators) and insurance companies the authority to deny care on a "moral" basis.
 - Requires provider/payor to document such objections.
 - Provides whistleblower protections to relevant individuals and prohibits disciplinary action from being taken against someone who denies care under these objections.
 - Does not permit discrimination against race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The bill leaves out sexual orientation and gender identity.
 - Can also include refusing to conduct research and recordkeeping, and denial of medical tests, diagnoses, referrals, medications, and therapy.

- Safety in Private Spaces Act (HB 1521/SB 1647) "Transgender Bathroom Bill"
 - Passed the House and Senate as of May 3rd, 2023. Not currently signed into law.
 Once signed, goes into effect July 1st, 2023. Ordered enrolled.
 - Bans individuals from using any restroom or changing room not aligned with their legally defined sex.
 - Provides exceptions for chaperones with children (parents), janitorial and other similar workers, and emergency services when relevant to job duties.
 - Gives authority to trespass a person if they are found to be in violation.

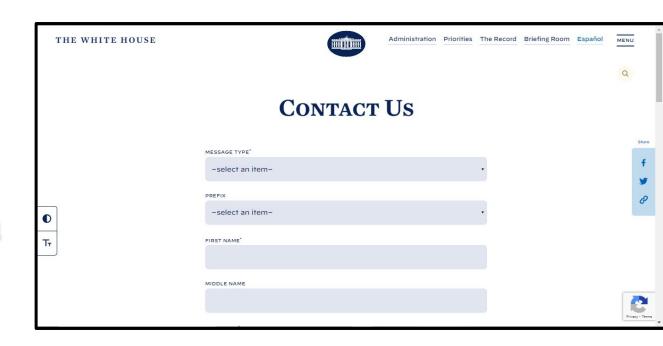
- Child Protection in Public Schools/Sexual Education (SB 1320/HB 1069)
 "Don't Say Period"
 - Passed the House and Senate as of May 3rd, 2023. Not currently signed into law.
 Once signed, goes into effect July 1st, 2023. Ordered enrolled.
 - Legally defines sex as based on assigned sex at birth, chromosomes, and "reproductive capacity". Also defines sex as something immutable and unchangeable and states schools must teach this.
 - Codifies "Don't Say Gay" rules up until 9th grade. Further expands on parents' ability to object to content being taught at school.
 - Prohibits an employee, contractor, or student from being "required" to refer to a person using a personal title or pronouns which do not match the legally defined sex.
 - Limits discussion of all sex-ed topics, including menstruation, to 6th-12th grade (11/12 years-17/18 years).
 - Prohibits the teaching of anything other than abstinence-only sex-ed.

- Protection of Children (SB 1438/HB 1423) "Anti-Drag Bill"
 - Passed the House and Senate as of April 19th, 2023. Not currently signed into law.
 Once signed, goes into effect immediately. Ordered enrolled.
 - Prohibits government permits for events during which a child may be admitted to "an adult live performance". Also gives government the power to fine, suspend, or revoke license of any public lodging or food establishment for admitting a child to such an event.
 - Defines drag performances as "an adult live performance" and defines such violations as "immediate serious danger to public health, safety, or welfare,".
 - Has directly led to the cancellation of Space Coast Pride's Pride Parade, forcing the event to become an indoor exhibition only.

- Defamation, False Light, and Unauthorized Publication of Name or License (HB 991)
 - As of May 5th, 2023, considered dead in judiciary committee.
 - Would have removed protections for journalists regarding defamation cases, allowing individuals who believe they are portrayed in an unfair negative light to sue and win attorney's fees from the journalist defendant.
- Employer Coverage of Gender Dysphoria Treatment (SB 952) "Reverse Woke Act"
 - As of May 5th, 2023, considered dead in health policy.
 - Would have forced employers who provide insurance coverage for transition-related care to also cover all costs related to detransitioning.
 - Would also have forced employers to pay for previous employees as well.
- Display of Flags by Governmental Entities (HB 1011)
 - As of May 5th, 2023, considered dead in constitutional rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee
 - Would have banned any government or state owned building from flying certain flags, including but not limited to pride flags.

- The importance of self-care:
 - "The ability to care for others is directly correlated to our ability to care for ourselves."
- Civil Disobedience/Malicious Compliance
 - Provide safe spaces, teach banned topics, read banned books, and make noise about how ridiculous these laws are!
- Spread the Word!
 - While things are finally getting out, a lot of people outside of Florida in the US have no idea how difficult things are right now.
- Stay up-to-date on Southern Legal Counsel's attempts to block or overturn various laws.
 - Simone Chriss is the Director of the Transgender Rights initiative at SLC and is leading the charge in these cases.
- Donate time, money, and resources.

- Write letters to the white house
 - https://www.whitehouse.gov/ contact/
- Contacting your representatives:
 - https://www.myfloridahouse.g
 ov/FindYourRepresentative
 - https://www.flsenate.gov/Senators
- Use AI chatbots such as ChatGPT to auto-generate letters to other reps/orgs.



Traveling Out of State

- Many states have laws protecting transgender healthcare and/or laws protecting individuals who travel for healthcare (instituted post *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*)
- Minnesota: "Trans Refuge": bill, will not comply with extradition, child removal requests, arrests, or subpoenas related to GAT.
 - California has passed a similar bill. Oregon, Washington, and Vermont have similar bills in the works.
- Maryland: Broadened state Medicaid to be in-line with private insurer's coverage for gender-affirming care, effective January 1st, 2024.
- Colorado: Passed and signed into law a bill which protects anyone traveling to the state for healthcare, including for abortion and GAT.
- Michigan: While no explicit protection for health care has been proposed, has recently passed a bill adding sexual orientation and gender identity to protected classes alongside religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, and marital status.

- HRT Treatment Options Post-SB 254
 - Do your best to maintain appointments with existing providers if you are already on HRT.
 - The healthcare system will not be able to keep up if 1000s of people cancel appointments and then try to reschedule once the bill is blocked or placed under injunction.
 - Work with your provider to create a plan going forward.
 - If you are not presently on HRT/do not currently have a provider, utilize out of state resources to find a state that protects traveling for healthcare.
 - Plume and Folx (telehealth only HRT providers) are currently not offering HRT in Florida, but Folx is supposedly looking into setting up a physical location staffed by a medical Doctor (MD).
 - DIYHRT Cafe (https://diyhrt.cafe/index.php/Main_Page) is a resource on which users catalogue and curate HRT providers from all over the world.

V. Helpful Resources

SPEKTRUM Health:

https://spektrum.health/

Elevated Access:

https://elevatedaccess.org/

Southern Legal Counsel:

https://www.southernlegal.org/

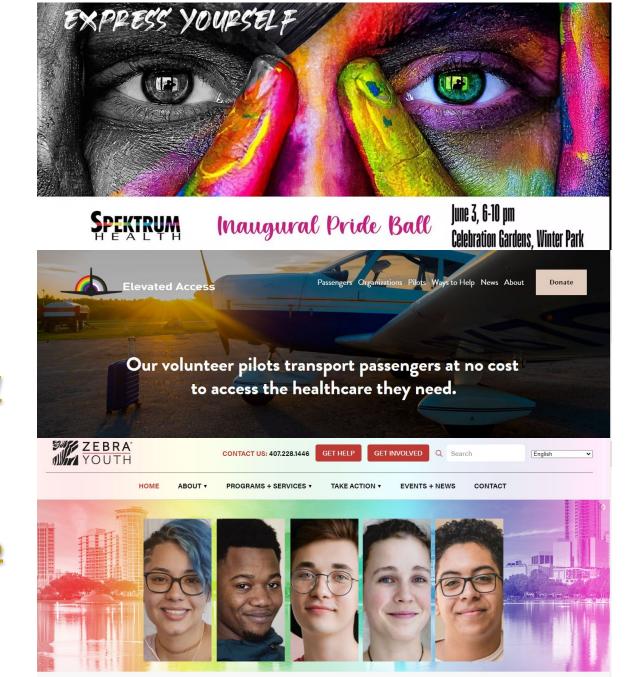
Zebra Coalition (ages 13-24):

https://zebrayouth.org/

Refuge Restrooms:

https://www.refugerestrooms.o

rg/



VI. Questions, Comments, and Concerns.

Questions?

VII. Sources

- LGBT rights in Florida Wikipedia
- ACLU Map for Anti-LGBTQ Bills in the US:
- All the anti-LGBTQ+ laws being proposed in Florida and how you can fight back |
 Florida News | Orlando | Orlando Weekly
- Florida House Passes Bill Blocking Funding for College DEI Programs NBC 6 South Florida (nbcmiami.com)
- What is HB 1069? New Sex Education Bill Moves in Florida House NBC 6 South Florida (nbcmiami.com)
- LGBT Rights in Colorado Wikipedia
- NPR: States working to protect GAT
- Civil Disobedience Wikipedia
- Malicious Compliance Wikipedia
- 80% of Trans Patients Under Threat of Losing Access to GAT
- Hate Group Helped Ghost-Write Anti-Trans Bills in Florida
- Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signs bill legalizing anti-LGBTQ+ medical discrimination LGBTQ Nation

VII. Sources

- Senate Bill 1028 (2021) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- House Bill 1475 (2021) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- Senate Bill 2012 (2021) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- House Bill 241 (2021) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- House Bill 7 (2022) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- House Bill 1521 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- Senate Bill 1674 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- House Bill 1421 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
- Senate Bill 254 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
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- House Bill 999 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
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- House Bill 991 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)
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- House Bill 1011 (2023) The Florida Senate (flsenate.gov)