



NAMI New Hampshire Statement on HB 1431

(May 19, 2022)

Concord, NH — NAMI New Hampshire is extremely disheartened that HB 1431 was moved forward by the Committee of Conference. This legislation would pose grave harm to the mental health and wellbeing of youth in our state, especially those who are LGBTQ+.

According to The Trevor Project's National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health 2022, affirming transgender and nonbinary youth is associated with lower rates of suicide attempts. Additionally, LGBTQ youth with access to community spaces that affirmed their gender identity and sexual orientation reported lower rates of suicide attempts. If enacted into law, HB 1431 would have a devastating impact on the ability of LGBTQ youth to safely connect with support in schools.

NAMI New Hampshire's mission is to improve the lives of all Granite Staters affected by mental illness and suicide. Our community members who identify as LGBTQ+ often face daily discrimination and lack family support – both factors can increase risk for mental health problems including suicidality.

NAMI NH is grateful for Governor Sununu's stated intention to veto HB 1431 and stands ready to work alongside legislators and policymakers to help children and their families to thrive in communities of support, education, and hope.

Visit [NAMINH.org/LGBTQIA](https://naminh.org/LGBTQIA) for mental health resources specifically curated to support the LGBTQIA+ community.