

FACT SHEET

HB 1106: REDEFINING ABUSE



HB 1106 amends the Texas Family Code to exclude from the definition of child abuse or neglect “the refusal by a person responsible for a child’s care, custody, or welfare to affirm: (A) a child’s perception of the child’s gender, including a refusal to use a child’s preferred name or pronouns, regardless of whether the child’s name has been legally changed; or (B) a child’s expressed sexual orientation.”

- This is a cruel and unnecessary law that addresses a non-existent problem. No parent or guardian has been accused of child abuse or neglect for not affirming a child’s LGBTQIA+ identity in Texas. HB 1106 creates an explicit carveout that is unnecessary and harmful. Rejecting LGBTQIA+ young people’s identities leads to anxiety, depression, and lasting mental and emotional harm. LGBTQIA+ youth in Texas already face a mental health crisis, and this law imposes even more harm.
- HB 1106 could worsen the already far-too-high rates of LGBTQIA+ youth homelessness. Too many LGBTQIA+ young people in our state already face rejection from their parents or guardians and disproportionately experience housing insecurity and homelessness. Enshrining parental discrimination into law could make this problem even worse.

If you are impacted by HB 1106, please reach out to us at intake.aclutx.org.