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Broward County Bans Conversion Therapy for Kids

By Caitie Switalski & Alex Gonzalez

Tony Lima was one of 30 Broward County residents at Tuesday's commission meeting. The executive director of [SAVE](#), he spoke against conversion therapy for minors – the controversial practice of trying to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

“We need to be able to as a county send a strong message that we are inclusive, that we are loving, that we are protective of their authentic selves – above all,” Lima said.

County commissioners unanimously banned conversion therapy for minors, following the lead of [Palm Beach County, which was the first in the state to pass a ban](#).

The ban would apply throughout Broward County, but cities can choose to opt out. A \$250 fine will be imposed for the first violation and a \$500 fine for each subsequent violation.

In South Florida, several cities and counties [have implemented](#) conversion therapy bans. These include Key West, West Palm Beach, Miami Beach and Miami.

Still, [Miami-Dade County commissioners rejected a ban](#) last October, citing concerns over parents' rights.

<http://wlrn.org/post/broward-county-bans-conversion-therapy-kids>

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