

From: "Delegate David Rudolph" <David.Rudolph@house.state.md.us>

To: "Jimmy" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: bill proposal

Date: Fri, 12 Jan 2007 16:37:52 -0500

Mr. Pinkley,

Thank you for your email concerning male circumcision.

Although this procedure has been common practice for centuries, primarily for social, cultural, and/or religious reasons, its routine use on male newborns is receiving renewed scrutiny. Certainly any decision by parents regarding this procedure should be an informed one.

Some studies have indicated there are medical benefits associated with male circumcision including lower rates of urinary tract infections and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV, syphilis and chancroid (Weiss, HA Curr Opin Infect Dis. 2007 Feb;20(1):66-72.) A recent policy statement on circumcision published by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2006 stated that, "Existing scientific evidence demonstrates potential medical benefits of newborn male circumcision; however, these data are not sufficient to recommend routine neonatal circumcision."

I assure you that if any legislation addresses this issue comes before the full House for a vote, I will take your comments and views into consideration.

Sincerely,
David Rudolph

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