



City of Cambridge

50.

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 31, 1997

COUNCILLOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: The HIV Prevention Act of 1997, proposed federal legislation introduced by Oklahoma Republican Representative Tom Coburn, is a serious and short-sighted threat to AIDS prevention; and

WHEREAS: This bill would establish a national HIV reporting effort, notify partners of people with HIV, force testing and criminalize the transmission of AIDS and would withhold federal Medicaid funds from states that do not implement these provisions; and

WHEREAS: These proposals intrude on local health care providers and do nothing to give individuals who are at risk of HIV the information they need to change their behavior; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record opposing the HIV Prevention Act of 1997; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation.

In City Council March 31, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

D. Margaret Drury

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

KR

JO.

introduced by Oklahoma
Representative
Tom Coburn

Whereas: Proposed federal legislation, the HIV Prevention Act of 1997 is a serious and short-sighted threat to AIDS prevention; and

Whereas: This bill would establish a national HIV reporting effort, notify partners of people w/ HIV, force testing and criminalize the transmission of AIDS and would ^{withhold federal} cut federal Medicaid funds from states that do not implement these provisions; ~~now therefore~~ and

Whereas: These purposes intrude on local health care providers and do nothing to give individuals who are at risk of HIV the information they need to change their behavior; ~~now therefore~~ be it

Resolved: That the CC go on record opposing ~~passing~~ the HIV Prevention Act of 1997; and
~~be it further~~

Resolved: That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

AIDS activists blast away at federal HIV 'prevention' bill

by Fred Kuhr
Bay Windows staff

A federal bill supposedly seeking to curtail the spread of HIV has come under fire from gay and AIDS groups as an attempt to stigmatize and punish people living with HIV and AIDS.

The measure, "The HIV Prevention Act of 1997," has been the target of such criticism since it was introduced on March 13 by

Oklahoma Republican Rep. Tom Coburn, a medical doctor.

The measure's provisions include establishing a national HIV reporting effort, notifying partners of people with HIV, requiring that those accused of sexual offenses be tested for HIV, and criminalizing the "intentional transmission" of HIV.

In order to force state compliance with the bill, Coburn proposed that federal Medicaid funds

be withheld from states that do not implement its provisions.

These federal resources, when pooled with state Medicaid funding, finance basic health care services for approximately 37 million Americans, including 53 percent of adults and 90 percent of children living with AIDS, according to activists.

"This bill is pure political vitriol," commented Larry Kessler, executive director of the AIDS

Action Committee of Massachusetts. "Anyone who really cared about the health of people with HIV, or prevention, would not stoop to such a short-sighted measure."

"This is nothing more than a package of warmed-over proposals that have been rejected by the public health establishment and lawmakers," said Winnie Stachelberg, legislative director of the Washington, D.C.-based Hu-

man Rights Campaign (HRC).

"These proposals intrude on local health care providers and nothing to give individuals who are at risk of HIV the information they need to change their behavior," added Stachelberg.

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Express to Members of the Massachusetts
Congressional Delegation Opposition
to The HIV Prevention Act
of 1997



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March 31, 1997

COUNCILLOR REEVES

WHEREAS: The HIV Prevention Act of 1997, proposed federal legislation introduced by Oklahoma Republican Representative Tom Coburn, is a serious and short-sighted threat to AIDS prevention; and

WHEREAS: This bill would establish a national HIV reporting effort, notify partners of people with HIV, force testing and criminalize the transmission of AIDS and would withhold federal Medicaid funds from states that do not implement these provisions; and

WHEREAS: These proposals intrude on local health care providers and do nothing to give individuals who are at risk of HIV the information they need to change their behavior; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record opposing the HIV Prevention Act of 1997; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation.

Entire Membership except
Consent Order #50 Russell

Councillor Reeves re: Opposition to
the HIV Prevention Act of 1997.

S-176

In City Council March 31, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED