

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 2501

Entitled the “Federal Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 1994”.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 5 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 12), 1994

Mr. REID (for himself, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mr. WELLSTONE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

Entitled the “Federal Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 1994”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Prohibition  
5 of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 1994”.

6 **SEC. 2. TITLE 18 AMENDMENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 18, United  
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
9 ing new section:

1 **“§ 116. Female genital mutilation**

2 “(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), whoever  
3 knowingly circumcises, excises, or infibulates the whole or  
4 any part of the labia majora or labia minora or clitoris  
5 of another person who has not attained the age of 18 years  
6 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than  
7 5 years, or both.

8 “(b) A surgical operation is not a violation of this  
9 section if the operation is—

10 “(1) necessary to the health of the person on  
11 whom it is performed, and is performed by a person  
12 licensed in the place of its performance as a medical  
13 practitioner; or

14 “(2) performed on a person in labor or who has  
15 just given birth and is performed for medical pur-  
16 poses connected with that labor or birth by a person  
17 licensed in the place it is performed as a medical  
18 practitioner, midwife, or person in training to be-  
19 come such a practitioner or midwife.

20 “(c) In applying subsection (b)(1), no account shall  
21 be taken of the effect on the person on whom the operation  
22 is to be performed of any belief on the part of that or  
23 any other person that the operation is required as a mat-  
24 ter of custom or ritual.

25 “(d) Whoever knowingly denies to any person medical  
26 care or services or otherwise discriminates against any

1 person in the provision of medical care or services, be-  
2 cause—

3 “(1) that person has undergone female cir-  
4 cumcision, excision, or infibulation; or

5 “(2) that person has requested that female cir-  
6 cumcision, excision, or infibulation be performed on  
7 any person;

8 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than  
9 one year, or both.”.

10 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
11 at the beginning of chapter 7 of title 18, United States  
12 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new  
13 item:

“116. Female genital mutilation.”.

14 **SEC. 3. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REGARDING FE-**  
15 **MALE GENITAL MUTILATION.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
17 Human Services shall ensure that the Deputy Assistant  
18 Secretary for Women’s Health and the Deputy Assistant  
19 Secretary for Minority Health collaborate for the purpose  
20 of carrying out the following activities:

21 (1) Compile data on the number of females liv-  
22 ing in the United States who have been subjected to  
23 female genital mutilation (whether in the United  
24 States or in their countries of origin), including a

1 specification of the number of girls under the age of  
2 18 who have been subjected to such mutilation.

3 (2) Identify communities in the United States  
4 that practice female genital mutilation, and design  
5 and carry out outreach activities to educate individ-  
6 uals in the communities on the physical and psycho-  
7 logical health effects of such practice. Such outreach  
8 activities shall be designed and implemented in col-  
9 laboration with representatives of the ethnic groups  
10 practicing such mutilation and with representatives  
11 of organizations with expertise in preventing such  
12 practice.

13 (3) Develop recommendations for the education  
14 of students of schools of medicine and osteopathic  
15 medicine regarding female genital mutilation and  
16 complications arising from such mutilation. Such  
17 recommendations shall be disseminated to such  
18 schools.

19 (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
20 term “female genital mutilation” means the removal or  
21 infibulation (or both) of the whole or part of the clitoris,  
22 the labia minor, or the labia major.

23 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES.**

24 Section 3 of this Act shall take effect immediately,  
25 and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall

1 commence carrying it out not later than 90 days after the  
2 date of the enactment of this Act. Section 2 of this Act  
3 shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment  
4 of this Act.

