

Dr. Fuchs, a well respected and nationally known urologic surgeon, is correct in that this "bill is a terrible idea." It is well know in surgical circles that you must have a thorough knowledge of the anatomy as well as be able to deal with minor and major both short and long term complications of any procedures you personally perform. I have performed thousands of vasectomies during my 20 years of service in the United States Navy as well as after my military service. I have worked with dozens of family physicians (MD/DO) who have had extensive training in vasectomy surgery and continued to refer patients to me who they felt needed more expertise. I think it would be highly unlikely for any Nurse Practitioner to gain the surgical experience to safely perform this procedure. Planned Parenthood would be opening their facilities to high risk litigation.

In extreme cases patients have lost their testicles to botched procedures or suffered chronic and debilitating testicular pain.

I urge you to vote "no" and not allow patients to be given less than the current "standard of care" for surgical care. Protect patients and ask yourself who you would allow to perform your husband's, son's, or your own procedure? If the answer is not a confident --nurse practitioner---then you must vote ethically for patient protection.

Very Respectfully,  
Tammy Bloom, MD  
Urologic Surgeon