

Administration to Seek Repeal of Military HIV Ban

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Priest, Dana

Abstract: Although President Clinton will sign the defense authorization bill recently passed by Congress, the administration announced Friday that it will try to repeal the provision forcing the discharge of all HIV-positive service members. The provision was criticized by AIDS activists and the White House AIDS policy office. The administration may seek to repeal the policy by claiming, in a Justice Department lawsuit, that the measure is unconstitutional. Several AIDS advocacy groups, who claim the bill is discriminatory, said they would also challenge the bill in class-action suits. Michael McCurry, a White House spokesman, said the administration is working with members of the House and Senate to reverse the policy before it takes effect, six months after it is signed.