

JAYE WANTS MURDER CHARGE FOR RAPISTS WITH AIDS

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Author: CHRIS CHRISTOFF , e Press Lansing Bureau Chief

LANSING -- Rep. David Jaye, R-Shelby Township, said Tuesday that rapists who know they have AIDS should be tried for first-degree murder, and he'll introduce legislation to allow prosecutors that choice.

"It's assault with a deadly weapon," Jaye said.

Jaye said he was responding to the case of **Dwayne Peterson** of Detroit, who has the AIDS virus and who has been charged with four rapes, attempted rape and attempted murder.

It is now a felony under state law for a person to have sex without informing the partner of AIDS infection. Law enforcement experts have criticized Jaye's idea as unnecessary.

Jaye, a member of the House Public Health Committee, predicted he would have support from "feminist groups."

Speaking at a news conference at the Capitol, Jaye also said Earvin (Magic) Johnson shouldn't be allowed to play in the Olympics because he might threaten the infection of other players.

Jaye lashed out at lawmakers and lobby groups who oppose his idea to require physicians, dentists and other health care workers to undergo AIDS testing and, if they test positive, to inform their patients. Jaye wants to bar physicians infected with the AIDS virus from performing surgery.

Jaye said such proposals are opposed by "Democrats who are bending over backwards to accommodate the homosexual lobby."

Rep. Michael Bennane, D-Detroit, chairman of the House Public Health Committee, supports bills to curb the spread of AIDS that stop short of mandatory testing. Those bills are being studied in committee.

Lisa Shoemaker, a Birmingham woman who was infected with the AIDS virus by a Florida dentist, appeared at the news conference with Jaye. She is campaigning for laws requiring AIDS testing and disclosure for health workers and physicians.

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