

New Jersey Scraps Plans to Ban Bikini Wax Procedure

By [Sujata Srinivasan](#) | 21 March 2009

One hardly expects to find bikini wax on a state government's to do list. But hey, our elected officials never cease to amaze us. Apparently, the state of New Jersey was so bothered by hairy business, ummm, down under, that officials were readying themselves to ban the procedure in salons across the Garden State.

The [BBC](#) on March 21 reported that the move was prompted by a proposal from The Cosmetology and Hairstyling Board in the heels of the hospitalization of two women who contracted an infection subsequent to the procedure. One of the women filed a lawsuit against the salon.

Then things got prickly. Salon owners protested over the loss of business in the upcoming summer season, forcing officials to reverse their decision. Whew!

But the logic behind the move to enforce such a ban might have been an assault on reason, too baffling for Kant himself. Two women contracted an infection after getting a bikini wax. One of them sued. The state decides to respond by banning the procedure?

By that line of thought, the government should ban all tattoo parlors if customers contract an infection after visiting some, down the shutters on all healthcare facilities if patients file malpractice lawsuits against a few, close down all swimming pools if a few folks got sick after a swim.....the list is endless.

Much as government officials would love to play knight in shining armor and save ladies from a tragic tangle of hairy complications, few of us would want our tax dollars to be spent on enforcing such a dumb law. Besides, most women would want the government to stay clear of their undies. On their own, women are perfectly capable of driving sub-standard salons out of business by simply not going there. Should they have a bad experience, they'll sue for damages if they want to. A smart salon will keep its customers by offering good service. Elementary economics.

Come on Uncle Sam, don't you have anything better to do? Or maybe you *like* to get all down and dirty. Ah, that must be it. Ho hum that, Kant!

For more check out the [Institute for Justice](#)'s work on occupational licenses.

