

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Health Committee

Issue Briefing

Topic: Regulation of body piercing
Prepared By: Thomas J. Walsh, Public Information Officer
Date: March 1, 2019

I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:

Authorize the Township Secretary to advertise notice of intent to adopt an ordinance amending the Code of the Township of Lower Merion, Chapter 90, Health and Sanitation, Article II, Tattooing and Body Piercing, by the addition of a new Section 90-4.7.1, to provide special regulations applicable to body piercing.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

The Health Advisory Council has drafted amendment language regarding the practice of body piercing, to be added to the existing Township Code regarding Tattooing and Body Piercing. In keeping with the current definition of body piercing in the Township Code, the piercing of the lobes of the ears shall be specifically excluded from the purview of these regulations.

III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable):

N/A

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

The Health Advisory Council drafted and unanimously approved the language, which was reviewed by the Township Solicitor, stating that special regulations be adopted for body piercing that address specific and limited types of needles that can be used in the practice, as well as specific and limited types of materials and jewelry that may and may not be used for “starter piercing.”

V. Impact On Township Finances:

N/A

VI. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends authorizing the advertisement of this proposed ordinance.