

From: Icemb London <icemb.london@utn.stjr.is>
Date: 27 February 2018 at 3:14:42 pm GMT
To: harold.lautenberg@gmail.com
Subject: Fw: Proposed Ban on Circumcision for Boys

Dear Harold Lautenberg,

Thank you for your email of 23 February. The Icelandic Parliament is currently considering a bill placed before it by a group of MPs on childhood circumcision. Iceland is a vibrant democracy and the right of an MP, or a group of MPs, to table bills or parliamentary resolutions is an integral part of the democratic process. The bill is expected to enter committee stage in the next few weeks and anyone is free to contact the Parliament (althingi@althingi.is) to convey their views.

As this particular bill is not presented by the Government or can be seen as Government policy, the Embassy cannot comment on the content of the bill. The parliamentary process is very transparent, plenary debates are broadcast and written material is published on the Parliament's website (www.althingi.is), including submitted evidence, providing for various and opposing views to be seen and heard.

Best regards,
Kristin H. Kristinsdottir

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----- Forwarded by Hrefna Dís Minshull/UTN/NotesSTJR on 26/02/2018
09:56 -----

From: Harold Lautenberg <harold.lautenberg@gmail.com>
To: hrefnam@mfa.is
Date: 23/02/2018 16:05
Subject: Proposed Ban on Circumcision for Boys

Dear Ambassador,
I was alarmed to read about a proposal to ban Circumcision for Boys in Iceland.
One of the most important customs in our Jewish faith is Circumcision 8 days after birth. The baby is medically

checked and if deemed healthy, the procedure is carried out by a competent person trained specially in this procedure. This custom has been carried out for thousands of years. To ban it and make it an illegal act takes away the foundation of our faith. History showed the Greek dynasties banned this practice as a way of undermining our heritage and abolishing Judaism, I believe also the Nazi regime banned this practice, certainly not for the well being of the child, but again a means of undermining and eventual destruction of the Jewish people.

I am certain that Iceland does not wish to follow in their footsteps for the same reason.

I would appreciate your reply.

With Best Wishes

Harold Lautenberg

Sent from my iPad