



## Council of Jewish Communities of Latvia

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26 March, 2018

Judicial Affairs and Education Committee  
Icelandic Parliament

**Subject:**

**Þingskjal: 183-114. mál Umsögn um breytingu á almennum hegningarlögum nr. 19/1940 (bann við umskurði drengja)**

Dear Delegates of the Standing Committee,

The Council of Jewish Communities of Latvia representing more than 10,000 members is deeply concerned regarding the bill on the criminal liability for the circumcision of boys in Iceland which now is directed to the Standing Committee.

Religious circumcision of boys (brit milah) is a central requirement of Jewish law and fundamental to Jewish religious, cultural and ethnic identity. A ban of circumcision would actually mean the prohibition of the existence of Jews in Iceland.

We urge you not to pass this law.

Sincerely,

Arkady Suharenko  
Chairman