



Including FGM in VAWA Sample Support Letter

Subject: Include Female Genital Mutilation in the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act

Sample Text:

I am writing to urge you to include female genital mutilation (FGM) in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). H.R.1585, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019, is a VAWA reauthorization bill introduced by the House of Representatives that includes provisions addressing FGM.

I further call on Congress to:

- Advocate for increased investigation and prosecution of FGM/C at the federal level
- Advocate for resources to study prevalence of FGM/C in the U.S. and provide services and support to victims
- Defend the constitutionality of the federal statute (18 USCS § 116) that criminalizes FGM

FGM is internationally recognized as a violation of the fundamental human rights of women and girls. Girls who undergo FGM may face lifelong physical and psychological consequences. Thousands of girls in the U.S. are vulnerable to FGM.

I therefore urge you to include FGM in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and protect the most vulnerable of our population: little girls.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,