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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 9, 2019

Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor of Pennsylvania
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf,

Enclosed is a letter that I sent to Senator Lisa Baker, Chairwoman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, requesting a state law criminalizing Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C) in Pennsylvania. I am concerned that the Commonwealth is one of 19 states across the Nation that has yet to pass legislation specifically banning this horrific and unconscionable practice.

On April 11, 2019, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) announced its decision not to appeal *U.S. v. Nagarwala*, the first federal FGM/C case, which holds the November 2018 ruling by a U.S. District Judge that the federal law criminalizing FGM/C is unconstitutional, and that local criminal activity falls under the jurisdiction of the States. The recent DOJ decision makes it urgent for Pennsylvania to pass a law that explicitly criminalizes FGM/C.

Sir, I respectfully request that, if a proposal criminalizing this abhorrent practice reaches your desk, you strongly consider signing the bill into law and prioritize its enactment. I truly appreciate your attention to this important issue, and I look forward to working with you to end the practice of FGM/C and protecting the girls and women of Pennsylvania and around the Nation.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Perry", written over the typed name and title.

SCOTT PERRY
Member of Congress
10th District, Pennsylvania