



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

December 17, 2020

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Director:

This letter responds to your request for the views and recommendations of the Department of Justice (Department) on enrolled bill H.R. 6100, the "STOP FGM Act of 2020." The Department recommends that the President sign the bill.

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a form of gender-based violence and child abuse that harms victims not only when they are girls, suffering the immediate trauma of the act, but also throughout their lives as women, when it often results in a range of physical and psychological harms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that half a million women and girls in the United States have already suffered FGM or are at risk for being subjected to FGM in the future.

The purpose of the "STOP FGM Act of 2020" is to amend the law that criminalizes FGM to ensure girls are protected from violence and make it illegal to remove any part of a girl's genitalia for non-medical reasons. The bill clarifies the Department's ability to prosecute such offenses and includes a reporting requirement for the Department.

The Department condemns this practice and is pleased that Congress passed H.R. 6100. Thank you for the opportunity to present our views. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other item.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Blanche Hankey".

Mary Blanche Hankey
Acting Assistant Attorney General