



Honourable Deb Frecklington MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Integrity

Our ref: 572305/10, 7515876

14 OCT 2025

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Neil,

I refer to e-Petition 4285-25 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 16 September 2025 titled *Ban child circumcision*.

The petitioner requests the criminalisation of male circumcision in children, consistent with the existing prohibition on female genital circumcision under section 323A of the Criminal Code.

Section 323A of the Criminal Code criminalises the female genital mutilation on a person of any age and carries a maximum penalty of 14 years imprisonment. The offence acknowledges the practice has no clinical benefits and brings with it severe and long-lasting health risks for women and girls.

While the circumcision of male children is not specifically criminalised by the Criminal Code, criminal liability may arise in circumstances where the procedure is carried out without valid consent, is performed negligently, or results in significant harm to the child.

The Government considers that the current legal framework and professional guidelines provide an appropriate balance between safeguarding children's welfare and respecting family and cultural practices.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House.

Yours sincerely

DEB FRECKLINGTON MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Integrity