

Reps. Lasinski, Hoitenga, Greimel, Hornberger, Hauck, Hughes, Chang, Farrington, Leutheuser, Faris, Griffin, Lucido, Rendon, Alexander, Whiteford, Kelly, VanderWall, Sowerby, Moss, Hammoud, Brinks, Geiss, Ellison, Camilleri, Wittenberg, Phelps, Sabo, Jones, Chirkun, Durhal, Gay-Dagnogo, Clemente, Cochran, Peterson, Dianda, Love, Hoadley, Pagan, Green, Yanez, Byrd, Neeley, Schor, Scott, Pagel, LaSata, Rabhi, Greig, Zemke, Allor, Crawford, Elder, Kesto, Singh and Sneller offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 105.

A resolution to support the United Nations' efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation worldwide, and urge the state of Michigan to do everything it can to end female genital mutilation in the state.

Whereas, Female genital mutilation is a harmful practice that involves the removal of all or part of the female genitalia. It is a human rights violation and serves no medical purpose; and

Whereas, Female genital mutilation has serious implications for the sexual and reproductive health of girls and women. Victims of female genital mutilation experience psychological trauma, pain, shock, bleeding, and other immediate injuries. Victims also face long-term consequences such as complications during childbirth, anemia, the formation of cysts and abscesses, painful sexual intercourse, sexual dysfunction, increased risk of HIV transmission, and numerous other problems; and

Whereas, Female genital mutilation is a barbaric practice performed all over the world as a means of controlling girls and women. An estimated 200 million girls and women alive today have been subjected to female genital mutilation worldwide, and roughly half a million girls and women in the United States have undergone female genital mutilation or are considered to be at risk for it in the near future; and

Whereas, The United Nations passed a historic resolution in 2012 calling on all countries to intensify global efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation. Countless other organizations, countries, states, provinces, and municipalities have worked to end female genital mutilation, but much more work needs to be done to support the mission outlined in the resolution; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan has the ability to make a significant difference in the fight against female genital mutilation. By passing stronger criminal laws, devoting resources to investigations, and engaging in a robust public health awareness campaign, the state can save girls from this horrible crime and hold perpetrators accountable; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we support the United Nations' efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation worldwide, and urge the state of Michigan to do everything it can to end female genital mutilation in the state; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Secretary General of the United Nations, the Governor, the Attorney General, and the directors of the Department of State Police and Department of Health and Human Services.