2018 SAMPLE LETTER TO LEGISLATORS

Senator/Representative\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Colorado State Capitol

200 East Colfax Avenue

Denver, CO 80203

Subject: “NO to Medicaid Funding for Circumcision”

Dear Senator/Representative\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

Colorado eliminated Medicaid payment for routine infant circumcision in 2011, but reinstated it in 2017 via budget amendment. As your constituent and a Colorado taxpayer, I strongly object to this wasteful and illegitimate use of Medicaid funds.

Circumcision of newborns is an elective, cosmetic, medically unnecessary, purely cultural practice and as such should not qualify for Medicaid dollars. It does not improve health or hygiene, neither is it cost-efficient, due to the added expense of complications, increased length of hospital stay, and common need for repeat procedures. Furthermore, the foreskin is a normal part of the body, and removing it from a healthy, non-consenting newborn raises a host of ethical and human rights concerns.

Seventeen other states no longer waste their tax dollars on infant circumcision. Indeed, Canada, the U.K., and Australia stopped funding infant circumcision decades ago, and they don’t have any health problems because of it.

It is fiscally irresponsible and unethical to waste precious Medicaid funds on infant circumcision, when so many people go without NEEDED medical care, and the State has so many other real funding priorities. Parents who choose medically unnecessary circumcision for their boys may continue to do so, but this should NOT be done at taxpayer expense.

Colorado made the right decision in 2011 to eliminate funding for infant circumcision from its Medicaid program. I ask you to please educate yourself about these matters (see suggested links below), and take action to again rescind funding for non-therapeutic infant circumcision. I am happy to work with you in person toward this end.

Please let me know if you require further information or documentation.

[www.IntactAmerica.org](http://www.IntactAmerica.org)

[www.CircumcisionDebate.org](http://www.CircumcisionDebate.org)

[www.DoctorsOpposingCircumcision.org](http://www.DoctorsOpposingCircumcision.org)