Honorable Senators and Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

As leaders of one of the most distinguished states of the United States of America, you hold an important role in shaping the destiny of this nation. You are the inheritors of a rich heritage of courageous thinkers and leaders who have sought to advance the causes of righteousness and justice for all people.

We write you now as members of the Jewish communities in the United States who may be affected by your decision on a very serious matter that has been put before you.

We understand that your Judiciary Committee has been presented with a bill calling for restricting circumcision of males under the age of 18. We respectfully request that the Honored Senators and Representatives reject this bill completely.

Every day of your sessions you are called upon to use the power entrusted you to regulate and improve the lives of your people. There are a host of valid, competing perspectives that can be chosen to approach matters of the welfare of the state. But there are also matters which lie outside the power entrusted to government.

G-d Almighty endowed your Commonwealth and the United States of America with grace and unprecedented success. No doubt there were important matters which He in His infinite wisdom deemed you worthy to carry out. The same G-d Who created the world and allowed your Commonwealth to flourish, commanded the Jewish people to circumcise their infant boys at the age of eight days. We implore you to conclusively reject this bill that would place barriers before the Jewish people in faithfully carrying out the will of G-d Almighty.

We extend our appreciation for the countless benefits that our people have gained from your leadership, and we hope in this case too you will grant the Jewish nation the ability to freely observe the commandments of G-d Almighty.

Respectfully submitted:

Rav Avrohom Yaakov Nelkenbaum

Rav Chaim Krauss

Dovid Z. Schwartz, Administrator