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**From:** [Chris & Jennie Grimwood](#)

**To:** [Representative Bob Lynn@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us) ; [Representative Wes Keller@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2011 4:08 PM

**Subject:** re: HB 88 letter for State Affairs Committee

To Chairman Bob Lynn and to the Committee members of the State Affairs Committee:

The Honorable Bob Lynn, Chair

The Honorable Wes Keller, Vice-Chair

House State Affairs Committee

Alaska State House of Representatives

State Capitol, Room 106

Juneau, AK 99801

*via email:* [Representative Bob Lynn@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us);

[Representative Wes Keller@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us)

**Re: House Bill 88**

Chair Lynn, Vice-Chair Keller:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding House Bill 88, relating to the application of international law. I am concerned about the spread of foreign and offensive laws being recognized by state and federal courts.

An imprisoned oncologist charged with setting up an unlicensed charity and illegally funneling \$4 million to Iraq was allowed to attend his trial without being strip-searched, as long as he is accompanied by a federal marshal, Dr. Rafil Dhafir, 56, had objected to being strip-searched, which he said is against his Muslim faith.

A public charter school, Tarek ibn Ziyad Academy, in Minneapolis has a mosque, has muslim studies and requires females to be fully covered with muslim style clothing. Prayers are compulsory.

In 1996, a father retained custody from Pakistan because the court determined that the best interest of the child should not be “determined based on Maryland law, i.e., American cultures and mores,” but rather “by applying relevant Pakistani customs, culture and mores.” The court said the mother was not likely to receive a public whipping or death if she returned to Pakistan to challenge custody as she said would happen.

I believe we should uphold our constitution and its laws and they should take precedence over foreign law. I am especially concerned how it affects the condition of women. Many foreign laws sanction forced abortions, murder, child marriage, polygamy, sexual mutilation, and sequestering of women in society. Islamic family law states the father has the absolute right to guardianship and physical custody of minor children. These laws should not follow women into the USA.

Sharia courts are staffed by imams that frequently preach wife-beating in their mosques. Sharia courts are used in England and in Texas to resolve domestic disputes.

The muslim community in Anchorage numbers 4000. A halal grocery opened in October and halal slaughtering is done in Palmer.

I remember reading about celebrations in Afghanistan after they were liberated from the Taliban. One of the things that impressed me was women celebrating by walking through Kabul without their burquas. These were oppressive garments as well as symbols of oppression. When I see muslim women with head coverings, I wonder how many actually wear these willingly.

Upholding our constitution and its laws will bring protection to all women who live in Alaska. I believe HB 88 is a protection for all citizens and female immigrants and their children.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Grimwood

Alaska President

Eagle Forum

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