

**DEPARTMENT OF TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
NOTICE 137 OF 2018**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED INTRODUCTION IN PARLIAMENT OF THE
CUSTOMARY INITIATION BILL, 2018**
(Published in accordance with Rule 241 of the Rules of the National Assembly)

In accordance with Rule 241(1)(b) of the Rules of the National Assembly of the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, notice is hereby given that the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs intends to introduce the Customary Initiation Bill, 2018 in the National Assembly.

In accordance with Rule 241(1)(c) of the said Rules, kindly be informed that this Bill seeks to provide for the effective regulation of customary initiation practices. The main objectives of the Bill are—

- (a) to protect, promote and regulate initiation;
- (b) to provide acceptable norms and standards with a view to ensure that initiation takes place in a controlled and safe environment; and
- (c) to provide for the protection of life and the prevention of any abuse.

The Bill consists of five chapters:

- (a) Chapter 1 deals with matters relating to interpretation (definitions); application; objectives; prohibitions; and guiding principles.
- (b) Chapter 2 deals with oversight and coordinating structures. Provision is made for a National Initiation Oversight Committee (NIOC) and Provincial Initiation Coordinating Committees (PICCs).
- (c) Chapter 3 deals with the responsibilities, roles and functions of key role-players, including government, traditional leaders and houses of traditional leaders.
- (d) Chapter 4 deals with governance aspects relating to initiation schools and includes provisions relating to consent, prohibitions, age and circumcision.
- (e) Chapter 5 deals with general matters such as offences, appeals, regulations, monitoring, provincial peculiarities and interim arrangements.

Electronic copies of the Bill and the Memorandum on the Objects of the Bill can be obtained from RinaldiB@cogta.gov.za, TrishaR@cogta.gov.za or Danie@cogta.gov.za.