

Draft 10
End of Sitting
Backgrounder
December 8, 2016
Written by: mg
Revised by: rp/AT
French: [If known, insert Yes or No]:
Visuals: [If known, insert Yes or No]:

Legend:

* – Bill expected to pass, but not confirmed

* – Bill expected to be introduced, but not confirmed

Highlighted – info TBC

20 Bills Passed and 6 Others Introduced During the Fall Sitting of the 41st Session of the Ontario Legislature

December 8, 2016

The 20 bills passed during the fall sitting of the Ontario legislature are helping Ontarians in their everyday lives by providing relief on electricity bills, cutting red tape, ensuring more people can access affordable housing and in other important ways.

Bills That Passed:

[Bill 2, Election Finances Statute Law Amendment Act, 2016](#)

Makes Ontario's electoral financing system one of the strongest and most transparent in Canada. The legislation modernizes the province's political fundraising and spending rules, provides rules for advertising spending by third parties and regulates nomination and leadership contestants.

***Bill 7, Promoting Affordable Housing Act, 2016**

Makes it easier for people in Ontario to find affordable places to live by modernizing existing social housing and increasing the supply of affordable housing across the province. This Act makes housing programs more people-centred and coordinated, building on the government's [update to the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy](#).

Bill 9, Improving Post-Stroke Recovery for All, 2016

Helps end age discrimination in the treatment of post-stroke recovery by ensuring that any treatment recommended by a physician for a patient who is recovering from a stroke is provided to that patient, regardless of their age.

Bill 13, Ontario Rebate for Electricity Consumers Act, 2016

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Makes electricity more affordable by providing an eight per cent rebate on electricity bills as of January 1, 2017. This will result in an average savings of about \$130 annually or \$11 each month to five million families, farms and small businesses.

***Bill 16, Hazel McCallion Day Act, 2016**

Recognizes the career and public service of Hazel McCallion, Mayor of Mississauga, who in her 36-year term oversaw the city's growth into one of Canada's largest and most vibrant urban centres.

Bill 28, All Families Are Equal Act, 2016

Ensures that all families are treated equally by ensuring the legal status of parents is recognized clearly and equitably, whether they are LGBTQ2+ or straight, and whether their children were conceived with or without assisted reproduction procedures.

Bill 34, Children's Law Reform Amendment Act (Recognizing Relationships with Grandparents), 2016

Prevents the person who has custody of a child from creating or maintaining unreasonable barriers to a personal relationship between the child and the child's grandparents.

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Bill 36, Albanian Heritage Month Act, 2016

Recognizes the history and achievements of the Albanian-Canadian community in Ontario and celebrates its contributions to Ontario's growth and prosperity.

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Bill 37, Protecting Students Act, 2016

Ensures children, students and teachers are protected by a clearer and more transparent investigation and disciplinary process for the province's educators. The legislation will strengthen the Ontario College of Teachers' ability to oversee the conduct and integrity of its educators and reduces the potential for conflicts of interest.

Bill 38, Islamic Heritage Month Act, 2016

Recognizes and celebrates the contributions of Muslims to Ontario's cultural and economic prosperity. Islamic Heritage Month provides an opportunity for people in Ontario to learn more about the history and heritage of Islamic culture and reduce Islamophobia.

***Bill 41, Patients First Act, 2016**

Increases access for patients and their families to health care that is better coordinated and culturally and linguistically appropriate. This legislation makes it easier for people to get the care they need by enabling health care providers to better coordinate information and services across services and in the community.

Bill 43, PANDAS/PANS Awareness Day Act, 2016

Helps people in Ontario make more informed health care choices by increasing public awareness and education about paediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders

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associated with streptococcus (PANDAS) and paediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome, abbreviated as (PANS).

Bill 44, Bangladeshi Heritage Month Act, 2016

Celebrates the contributions the Bangladeshi-Canadian community has made and continues to make to the growth and prosperity of the province.

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***Bill 45, Election Statute Law Amendment Act, 2016**

Modernizes the electoral process and engages young people in the democratic process. This Act allows electronic vote counting, changes the date of scheduled provincial elections from the first Thursday in October to the first Thursday in June, and gives 16- and 17-year-olds the choice to join a provisional voter registry that would help them get ready to vote when they reach the voting age of 18.

Bill 47, Protecting Rewards Points Act (Consumer Protection Amendment), 2016

Protects consumers by prohibiting the expiry of reward points, ensuring that consumers get the full value of their loyalty program regardless of when they earned the points.

Commented [TA6]: Passed December 5, 2016

Bill 55, Remembrance Week Act, 2016

Proclaims the week preceding Remembrance Day as Remembrance Week to honour the extraordinary courage and sacrifice made by men and women in the service of Canada.

Bill 56, Hindu Heritage Month Act

Celebrates the Hindu-Canadian community's history and heritage in Ontario, and its contributions to the economic and cultural vibrancy of the province.

Commented [TA7]: Moved due to change in bill #

Bill 63, Nurse Practitioner Week Act, 2016

Celebrates and recognizes the many contributions of nurse practitioners to the health and well-being of people in Ontario by proclaiming the second week in November as Nurse Practitioner Week.

Commented [KF8]: Moved to Introduced Only

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***Bill 70, Building Ontario Up for Everyone Act (Budget Measures), 2016**

Helps first-time home buyers by doubling the maximum Land Transfer Tax (LTT) refund to \$4,000 while marginally increasing LTT rates on residences over \$2 million. This Act also implements measures to improve consumer protection, extend whistleblower protection, enhance the fairness and effectiveness of the province's property tax and assessment system, and create a Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario.

Bills Introduced:

Bill 27, Burden Reduction Act, 2016

Would reduce and streamline regulatory and administrative burdens that cost businesses time and money while protecting environmental and health standards and enhancing worker safety. It would change 50 different statutes to build a smarter, more

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modern and more efficient regulatory framework as part of Ontario's five-year, \$400-million [Business Growth Initiative](#).

Bill 39, Aggregate Resources and Mining Modernization Act, 2016

Would modernize the province's mining and aggregate extraction industries to help increase growth and improve environmental oversight. The Act would update fees and royalties and increase public participation in extraction application processes in order to balance growth and job creation with environmental sustainability.

Commented [KF14]: Passed... moved up!

Commented [TA15]: Introduced, but not expected to pass until the Spring

***Bill 59, Putting Consumers First Act (Consumer Protection Statute Law Amendment), 2016**

Establishes mandatory licensing requirements for home inspectors in Ontario. This legislation increases confidence in real estate transactions and reduces consumer risk when making this important financial decision. The bill also strengthens and expands rules for alternative financial services such as payday loan providers, giving customers better financial protections when using these services.

Commented [KF16]: Introduced but not expected to pass until the spring

Bill 65, Safer School Zones Act, 2016

Would make roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists by giving municipalities more tools to set speed limits and use automated speed enforcement systems and red light camera systems in community safety zones and school zones.

Commented [TA17]: Introduced but not expected to pass until the spring

Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2016

Would help local governments be more transparent, fiscally sustainable and better able to deliver services. This legislation would respond to concerns raised during public consultations in 2015 by amending the *Municipal Act*, the *City of Toronto Act* and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

Commented [TA18]: Introduced, but not expected to pass until the spring

Bill X, Medical Assistance in Dying Statute Law Amendment Act , 2016

Would provide patients, their families and health care providers with increased protection and greater clarity over medical assistance in dying. The Act would ensure that benefits are not denied because of a medically assisted death, health care professionals are protected from civil liability, health care facilities and providers have their privacy protected, and there continues to be effective monitoring and reporting of medically assisted dying.

Bill X, Protecting Patients Act, 2016

Would protect patients and keep them healthy by making a number of improvements to health care for the people of Ontario, including upholding and reinforcing our zero-tolerance policy on patient sexual abuse by any regulated health professional. This aligns with the government's [Patients First Action Plan for Health Care](#).

Bill XX, Supporting Children, Youth and Families