

Dangwal, Shriya

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: June 11, 2020 8:01 PM
To: Standing Committee on Justice Policy
Cc: Ellis, Victoria
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 18231

Submitted on Thu, 06/11/2020 - 19:58

Application ID: 18231

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 161, Smarter and Stronger Justice Act, 2020**

Choose a topic

Do you know the bill title or business (e.g., pre-budget consultations) you'd like to speak or submit material about?

Yes

Choose an application

Which application would you like to submit?

Submit material only

Which deadline would you like to submit your written material for?

[Written Submissions \(Deadline: Friday, June 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.\)](#)

Add your information

Are you submitting material as an individual or on behalf of an organization?

I am submitting material as an individual

Name

Aquil Virani

Email address

aquilvirani@gmail.com

Paste submission

Dear Mr. Barber,

The legal clinic system in Ontario is such an important part of my community and the structures that support it. We live in an imperfect society where justice is not a given, and access to justice cannot be assumed. Please listen to the clinics who are calling on the Standing Committee on Justice Policy to protect this system by improving the text of Bill 161.

Bill 161 must be changed so that the Legal Aid Services Act maintains its identification of legal clinics as the foundation for the provision clinic law services. Legal clinics must have the same Ontario-wide accessibility and clear definition and purpose that they do today. Legal clinics must be governed by the communities they serve and must not be impeded in providing access to justice for low-income and marginalized people.

Sincerely,
Aquil Virani