

Taylor, Laura

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 4, 2020 6:13 PM
To: Standing Committee on Justice Policy
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 25671

Submitted on Wed, 11/04/2020 - 18:08

Application ID: 25671

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 218, Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections 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 Submission deadline: 7:00 p.m. \(EST\) on Wednesday, November 4, 2020](#)

Add your information

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

I am submitting material as an individual

Full name

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Paste submission

Our Mother, Elise Arthur, identified one thing she feared most in life and that was to die alone. It is gut-wrenching to know that on April 28, 2020 she did die alone with no one to hold her hand or provide comforting words while she fought for her life. Instead, her life was cut short after she contracted COVID-19 while in the

care of Grace Manor. How did this happen when she was under the care of Grace Manor that assured families that they were doing everything possible to ensure the safety of their residents. Our mother had not left Grace Manor, had no visitors and received no outside packages since early March 2020. If they were truly in lock down, following all PPE and safety guidelines and doing everything possible to protect residents, how did the virus spread like wildfire, even into locked down wards?

We are appalled to now know that answer. Through first-hand accounts and the subsequent military report, it is clear now Grace Manor was not doing everything possible. In fact, they were not even doing the essentials to ensure the safety of their residents. Allowing Bill 218 to be passed is appalling. If passed, it says our loved ones don't matter. It is protecting those who should not be protected. It prohibits long-term care facilities, such as Grace Manor from facing the consequences of their actions. It sends a clear message that the government would prefer to forget and move on, rather than bring justice to the families who have been impacted by COVID-19 in this manner. It is our view that the negligence of Grace Manor led to our mother's death.

Imagine the impending doom feeling knowing that your mother is just a few feet away from a person suspected of having COVID-19, sharing a bathroom with that person, hearing your mom tell the nurse how much her roommate has been coughing through the night and the nurse just saying "ok, I will make note". We asked for their plan, we asked for her to be moved to another room by herself. The only response, we got was "we are looking into options" What options? It was days of this agony, praying that our mom would not get sick.

Elise is a mother, grandmother, aunt and friend to so many. She was taken from us before her time. It is beyond unsettling to lose someone under these circumstances. It is a feeling of pure agony that will live with us forever.

If this bill is passed, then those responsible will not be held accountable. If you pass this bill then you are allowing for someone else's grandmother, grandfather, mother or father to die this way too. We need action and we need change and we need to keep our elders safe. Picture your own loved one in this same situation and ask yourself, do you want to be the one that passes Bill 216? Please, I beg of you to protect our elders and keep them safe.