

Application ID: 18736

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 184, Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing 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

Add your information

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

I am submitting material as an individual

Name

Amber Stechyshyn

Email address

amber.stech@gmail.com

Paste submission

To the Committee members,

I am writing to demand the government immediately stop the passing of Bill 184. The Bill "Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act, 2020" which was meant to amend the Residential Tenancies Act, does the exact opposite by further weakening tenants' rights in multiple ways:

- It makes evictions easier by limiting tenants' legal defenses and in some cases removing the requirement to hold eviction hearings. Previously, renters were able to raise issues like chronic disrepair at eviction hearings and the Board had discretion to deny eviction in cases where it found the landlord had not met its obligations.

- Tenants would need to give notice in writing of these complaints before a hearing occurs. When landlords apply to evict tenants for late rent, the tribunal can make repayment agreements. Under the new law, if tenants are unable to fulfill those repayment agreements, landlords would not have to go back to the tribunal for an eviction hearing. Instead, the

tribunal could issue a quick eviction order without a hearing.

- The amended law will also allow landlords to chase tenants for payment arrears for upto a year after vacating a unit.

All this when, amid COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of tenants are already struggling to make difficult choices - to put food on the table or pay rent!

The Bill 184 must be immediately stopped to truly protect the rights of tenants. Tenants need more protection than ever.

In addition, the government must enact urgent measures to protect tenants' rights:

1. RentBreak: Provide urgent rent assistance for people falling through the cracks.
2. Rent Freeze: Mandate rent freeze across the board. There should be NO rent increases (automatic or otherwise) during the pandemic.
3. Rent Control: Mandate FULL Rent Control including Vacancy Control immediately and continue it even after the pandemic.
4. Ban Eviction Notices and Create Eviction Prevention: Preventive action to protect tenants from getting evicted as soon as the emergency law is lifted.

As a long-term renter and as a citizen of Ontario, I demand to have my rights protected and my voice be heard.

Sincerely,
Amber Stechyshyn