

Submitted on Fri, 03/04/2022 - 16:38

Application ID: 58081

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 88, Working for Workers Act, 2022**

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

Full name

Mr BINGLIN LI

Paste submission

My name is Binglin Li, 58 years old live in Markham. My and my family was so shocked by the news of revoking Traditional Chinese Medicine Act 2006 and the regulator will be wind-up in 18months, then moving TCM treatment into public domain. I am a TCM Doctor in China for 30 years. I immigrated to Canada 3 years ago which I thought it's good step for my TCM career development, I do have the language barrier as others new comer to pass the TCM Pan- Canadian exam to get the license, then I went back the school to improve my language skill and safely Acts course, which I feel it worth which is I am living in English speaking country, after two years language training I feel confident to write the English exam in April and I able talk with other in English now. This propose of Schedule 5 of Bill 88 will push TCM practice to back hole, and risk for public health as well. It must be stopped.

TCM is strictly regulated in China, I studied in TCM University for 5 years and followed my master in hospital for 10 years after university. I do feel proud of myself skill and I very confident it benefits a lot of patients here, such chronic pain, post-surgery, post cancer recovery, infertility etc. TCM it's world treasure and it's complementary and alternative medicine in Canada. On the other hand, in unskilled hands, acupuncture can cause life-threatening injuries like pneumothorax and death events, it cannot regulate as Tattoo or ear pricing casually. Acupuncture and Chinese medicine practice must in high level

regulated and protected, Acupuncturist and TCM Practitioner must maintain as health care profession in public. The introducing Repeal the Traditional Chinese medicine Act like push back the TCM Practice as fish in the muddy water on public, people like blindness who is seeking TCM service, it totally lacks concern of public safe. For people who has high level skill and face language barrier to written exam in English like me which can suggesting the collage has a language choice to write exam as BC college practice. We need move it forward and not push back. TCM practitioner desire higher level regulated, public who is seeking TCM treatment desire health care protection.

I would request that you take serious consideration and remove section 5 from Bill 88, 2022 for the goodness and wellbeing of all Ontarians. Please find attached the letter and petition for more detailed expression on this matter.

Respectfully yours

March 3, 2022

Dear Premier Ford and Honorable Members of Provincial Parliament,

Further to the letter and petition you may have received yesterday on behalf of the professional members of the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario (CTCMPAO), below please find a summary of our requests.

In spite of what the *Traditional Chinese Medicine Repeal Act, 2022 of Bill 88, Working for Workers Act, 2022, Schedule 5*, assumes, the de-regulation of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and acupuncture is not in the best interest of the general public. The dissolution of the CTCMPAO is a serious public health risk as it allows untrained individuals to perform the controlled acts of performing acupuncture below the dermis and mucous membranes, and communicating a TCM diagnosis.

In unskilled hands, acupuncture can cause life-threatening injuries like pneumothorax and even death. We respectfully ask for your reconsideration for the following reasons:

1. The *Traditional Chinese Medicine Repeal Act, 2022 of Bill 88, Working for Workers Act, 2022, Schedule 5* (hereinafter "Schedule 5"), will remove the safeguards, standards of practice, and professional competencies required by CTCMPAO members. These are put into place to ensure the safety of the public; the very users of Traditional Chinese Medicine and acupuncture.
2. The CTCMPAO also sets jurisprudence and ethical standards of practice to protect the public. Schedule 5 dictates that all current investigations and proceedings into misconduct shall be dropped. The dissolution of the CTCMPAO would allow these individuals with active complaints and those who have decisions against them to continue to practice. This removes public protection and poses another threat to public health, both on the physical and mental levels.
3. The practice of Traditional Chinese Medicine and acupuncture is a regulated health profession. As such, our profession is under the authority of the Ontario Ministry of Health and not the Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development, whose expertise is not in the field of health care regulation.
4. Schedule 5 is discriminatory toward predominantly Asian health practitioners, as only the Traditional Chinese Medicine and the acupuncture profession was singled out, despite there being twenty-six health professions regulated under the RHPA.
5. Schedule 5 will have a direct negative impact on the public's ability to access Traditional Chinese Medicine and acupuncture as part of their health care.
6. Schedule 5 will give insurance companies the opportunity to deny the coverage of acupuncture when it is performed by TCM-trained acupuncturists. Instead insurance companies might favour non-TCM trained regulated health practitioners, who generally have less training and scope in the practice of acupuncture.
7. Schedule 5 will negatively impact the 2,760 registered members of the CTCMPAO, our families, jobs, and businesses and subsequently the businesses we frequent.
8. Schedule 5 will have a negative impact on the fifteen TCM and acupuncture educational institutions, thirteen of which are private colleges and two of which are community colleges, and their staff, teaching faculty, program directors, and owners.
9. Schedule 5 will have a negative impact on the hundreds of students enrolled in programs and new graduates across the province.
10. Schedule 5 will negatively impact on the required competency standards for the practice of TCM, the professional standing of TCM and hence the public's access to safe, competent and professional health care services.

We are aware that those who lobbied for the de-regulation of TCM and acupuncture had valid issues with the English language requirements set out by the CTCMPAO. Rather than dissolve the CTCMPAO, which will be a lengthy and arduous process that negatively impacts thousands of your constituents, we respectfully bring forth the recommendation that the province of Ontario follow in British Columbia's footsteps and allow for both the Chinese and English languages in practice.

We implore you to make the right decision.

Respectfully yours,

Binglin Li
114 Living Crescent, Markham, L6C0T4, ON
Professional Members candidate of the CTCMPAO

Petition

To The Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

WHEREAS Schedule 5 of Bill 88 proposes to dissolve the College of Acupuncturists and Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners of Ontario (CTCMPAO) and therefore de-regulate Ontario's acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) healthcare industry. Acupuncturists and TCM practitioners are honorable professions that require intensive training of at least 3-4 years. Practitioners must be highly skilled to perform acupuncture and to write TCM formulas to avoid potential risks to patients. Unprofessional needling and wrongful diagnosis can harm patients in detrimental ways. Careful regulation is a must to protect public safety and to maintain public confidence in the fields of acupuncture and TCM. Safe delivery of acupuncture and TCM treatments could not be assured without the presence of an impartial and robust mechanism for government oversight.

We the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

1. Remove schedule 5 of Bill 88
2. Do not repeal the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act, 2006
3. maintain the CTCMPAO
4. keep acupuncturists and TCM Practitioners as regulated health professions
5. Make the Chinese version of the Pan-Canadian Entry-level Examinations for Acupuncture and TCM available to Ontario exam takers

[illegible]