

SUBMISSION TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL POLICY

Re: Bill 88, Working for Workers Act, 2022

Schedule 5, TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE REPEAL ACT, 2022

Submitted by: Barbara Adach (Inactive Member of CTCMPAO)

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Submission to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Re: Bill 88, Working for Workers Act, 2022

Schedule 5, TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE REPEAL ACT, 2022

Dear Honourable Members of the Standing Committee on Social Policy,

Schedule 5 of Bill 88 proposes to dissolve the College of Acupuncturists and Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners of Ontario (CTCMPAO) and therefore deregulate Ontario's acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) healthcare industry.

Acupuncture and TCM are honourable professions that require extensive training (at least three to four years of post-secondary education). Practitioners must be highly skilled to correctly diagnose, perform acupuncture, and write TCM formulas to avoid potential risks to patients. Incorrect diagnosis and unprofessional needling can harm patients in many ways (e.g. prolongation of illness, pneumothorax).

Judicious regulation is key to protecting public safety and maintaining 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.

Therefore, I petition this Standing Committee and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

1. Remove Schedule 5 from Bill 88,
2. Do not repeal the Traditional Chinese Medicine Act, 2006,
3. Maintain the CTCMPAO,
4. Maintain acupuncture and TCM as regulated health professions and
5. Make a Chinese language version of the Pan-Canadian Entry-Level Examinations for
Acupuncture and TCM available to Ontario exam takers

Respectfully,

Barbara Adach