

Douglas, Julia

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 25, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 26861

Categories: Green Category

Submitted on Wed, 11/25/2020 - 09:21

Application ID: 26861

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 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, December 2, 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

Mr Andrew Fera

Contact phone number

[5197175050](#)

Email address

andrew_fera@hotmail.com

Paste submission

Sent via email: comm-financeaffairs@ola.org

Attn: Julia Douglas, Committee Clerk Legislative Assembly of Ontario Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs 99 Wellesley Street West Room 1405, Whitney Block Queen's Park Toronto ON M7A 1A2

Re: Schedule 6 to Bill 229

Dear Members of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs:

I respectfully request that you strike-out Schedule 6 of Bill 229 in its entirety.

I write to you as an individual but also as a Provincial Offenses Officer who works at the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority. I have spent 4 years of my career in regulations and enforcement and I more than most recognize the danger in which Schedule 6 puts the lives of Ontarians.

I can advise that Schedule 6 will not advance protection of people and property from flooding and erosion, but rather adds inappropriate red tape and added complexity to local decision-making, which will not help protect landowners our communities or watersheds more broadly.

Most egregious is the proposed amendment to the Planning Act contained in section 26 of the Schedule. Since 1995, conservation authorities have been delegated the responsibility and painstaking task of reviewing site-by-site development proposals to ensure that provincial interests in protecting people and property from flooding and erosion are addressed in planning decisions. Removing conservation authorities' ability to appeal improper decisions to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal does nothing but hamstring an essential safeguard for public safety in our communities and watersheds.

I urge the government to withdraw Schedule 6 to allow for sober second thought and I ask the committee to exercise its power with respect to this misguided and harmful legislative proposal by striking out Schedule 6 in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Andrew Fera

Would you like to add any other information?

This is more about politics than it is COVID-19, and that is truly disheartening.