

Douglas, Julia

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 24, 2020 1:54 PM
To: Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 26641

Categories: Green Category

Submitted on Tue, 11/24/2020 - 13:48

Application ID: 26641

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

Christine Hutchison-Hounsell

Paste submission

I wish to express my opposition to the Ford government's proposed changes to the Conservation Authority Act.

This bill will introduce a number of deeply troubling changes:

- It will effectively negate the vital role of conservation authorities by allowing developers to apply to override

conservation authority decisions regarding building permits on flood plains and in wetlands

- It restricts the ability of conservation authorities to implement non-mandatory programs that serve local needs and interests
- It limits conservation authorities' ability to investigate illegal activity
- It removes citizen oversight from conservation authority boards by permitting only elected councillors to be appointed to them
- It undermines the important "integrated watershed" approach to resource protection and management by requiring board members to act in the interest of the municipality they represent and not in the interest of the overall watershed, an approach that the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority has said will leave Ontario with "a patchwork of programs" that puts our environment at risk.

I want to live in a province where the environment is clean, cared for, and accessible to all. These proposed changes go against my vision of what Ontario can and should be doing to preserve our natural heritage.