

Douglas, Julia

From: Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Sent: November 30, 2020 10:31 PM
To: Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs
Cc: Teng, Deborah
Subject: Webform submission: Submission of material 28221

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Submitted on Mon, 11/30/2020 - 22:24

Application ID: 28221

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

M Shaw

Paste submission

I am opposed to the proposed amendments to the Conservative Authorities Act through Schedule 6 of Bill 229 that curtails or prohibits the mandate of conservation authorities.

Using science-based evidence, conservation authorities play critical roles in many areas including the following:

- planning services to provincial agencies and municipalities regulating or guiding development in or adjacent to watersheds and Natural Heritage Systems,
- protecting and preserving of our natural environment, the Greenbelt, Natural Heritage Systems, urban green spaces, watersheds, and wetlands,
- connecting the public, especially youth, with the environment through educational programs,
- actively managing, guiding, and implementing regulations to create a sustainable and climate resilient Ontario, and
- protecting water resources through flood plain management and ensuring access to safe drinking water for the health and safety of all Ontarians.

I am particularly concerned with the provisions in Schedule 6 of Bill 229 which seek to:

- curtail or prohibit the mandate of conservation authorities specifically by:
 - o reducing the scope of planning reviews,
 - o imposing deadlines which undermine a full and comprehensive technical review of development applications,
 - o allowing developers to challenge application fees set out by conservation authorities to facilitate comprehensive technical review,
 - o prohibiting conservation authorities from appealing planning decisions to the LPAT or participating in the appeal process,
- allow the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry the ability to approve development applications directly without technical review and input from conservation authorities, and
- mandate the appointment of members to be duly elected municipal officials only, giving rise to conflict of interest and compromising the fiduciary role of board members.

As a taxpayer, I understand the Province's mandate for efficient governance; however, transparent public consultation regarding this process and all public policy processes is the cornerstone of our democracy with which all levels of government have been entrusted. This has been minimal during the consultation process for Schedule 6 of the omnibus Bill 229.

Thank you for your consideration of this submission. I strongly urge you to strike out, in its entirety, Schedule 6 from Bill 229.