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Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020**

Full name

Shim Hirschberg

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Shim Hirschberg on Bill 229, for the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs

Schedule 6 of Bill 229 is proposing changes to the Conservation Authorities Act.

I recommend that Schedule 6 be removed from Bill 229. We need the Conservation Authorities Act "to provide for the organization and delivery of programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario" (from section 0.1 in the Act). These protections for our watersheds and wetlands help us preserve our ecosystem, to use the land in ways that prevent drought, flooding, and erosion. Schedule 6 is likely to set back integrated watershed management by decades. We need to build climate resilience and leaving Schedule 6 out of Bill 229 will help do this. Our health and well-being depend on it.