



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL
of
The Catholic Women's League of Canada



Communique #2

Pages:2

November 17th, 2021

To: Diocesan Legislation Standing Committee Chairpersons
From: Betsy Currier, Provincial Legislation Standing Committee Chairperson
cc: Provincial Officers, Diocesan Presidents, and National Legislation
Standing Committee Chairperson

*Legislation is social justice in action.
It is the carrying out of League resolutions to influence government policy.*
CWL [Executive Handbook](#) (May 2014)

My League sisters.... A warm welcome to all of you on this cool fall day. As our legislative assemblies come back to order, business is rebooting and work is being done. It is our role to monitor and study legislation at all levels of government, and to review ongoing and proposed legislation that pertains to League resolutions.

I have to confess that I have never been a legislation or resolutions standing committee chairperson and, to be honest, I have limited experience in researching current bills but I found this exercise very, very interesting. What a tremendous learning experience for me! I thought I'd have a look at some of the current provincial Bills - too many for me to highlight, but here are a few that peaked my interest.

The entirety of the Bills can be found at www.ola.org - click on "find Bills" (or google current Ontario legislation). I encourage you to take a few moments and read some or all of the ones that interest you. You may recognize some of the issues in which the League has been interested.

Bill 14, Time to Care Act (Long-Term Care Homes Amendment, Minimum Standard of Daily Care), 2021

Armstrong, Teresa J.

Current status: First Reading Carried

The Bill amends the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* so that a long-term care home will have to provide its residents with at least four hours a day of nursing and personal support services, averaged across the residents. The minimum hours may be increased by regulation.

Bill 31, Nancy Rose Act (Paediatric Hospice Palliative Care Strategy), 2021

Current status: First Reading Carried

Shaw, Sandy

This is an Act to provide for the development of a provincial paediatric hospice palliative care strategy to create equity of access to high quality paediatric hospice palliative care across Ontario.

Bill 41, Viewer Discretion Act (Images of Fetuses), 2021

Sattler, Peggy

Armstrong, Teresa J.

Kernaghan, Terence

Current status: First Reading Carried

This Bill provides that no one shall send a graphic image of an aborted or otherwise non-viable fetus by mail or otherwise distribute such an image unless the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The image is contained in an opaque envelope.
2. The exterior of the envelope includes a description of the contents.
3. The exterior of the envelope clearly identifies the sender.

Bill 42, Ontario Religious Freedom Day Act, 2021

Sabawy, Sheref

Current status: First Reading Carried

This Bill proclaims October 27 each year as Ontario Religious Freedom Day.

Bill 44, Perinatal Mental Health Act, 2021

Karpoche, Bhutla

Current status: First Reading Carried

This is an Act to proclaim Perinatal Mental Health Day and to require a review of perinatal mental health in Ontario and the preparation of a Provincial Framework and Action Plan.

Bill 48, Support Workers Pay Act, 2021

West, Jamie

Current status: First Reading Carried

This Act provides minimum pay for every support worker including the temporary pandemic pay paid to support workers; provides travel payments per kilometre travelled between work sites; stipulates that the Minister of Long-Term Care develop programs to provide training, education and professional development for all support workers and long-term care staff; recruit and retain the number of support workers required to deliver adequate and appropriate care; and ensure support workers are paid while learning on the job and that they can receive full-time jobs at the end of their apprenticeship.

I wish you happy reading!

Blessings and hugs, Betsy