

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs**

Office of the Minister

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16-71532

Dear Head of Council,

I am pleased to announce that the government introduced Bill 68 – the proposed *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2016* in the Legislature on November 16, 2016.

The proposed *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2016* is the result of the review of three key elements of Ontario's municipal legislative framework: the *Municipal Act, 2001*, *City of Toronto Act, 2006* and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*. This package of amendments reflects my position that Ontario already has a strong legislative framework governing municipalities, and overall our legislation is working well.

The Bill includes proposed changes to help ensure our local governments remain accountable and have the flexibility to respond to the people they serve. If passed, these changes would benefit local governments and residents by:

- Increasing fairness and reducing barriers for women and parents elected to municipal governments by allowing time off for pregnancy or parental leave
- Empowering municipalities to address climate change in their communities through by-laws related to green construction in certain circumstances
- Broadening municipal investment powers, which may help better finance repairs and replacements of local infrastructure
- Improving access to justice for the public and for municipal councillors by allowing integrity commissioners to investigate complaints'
- Requiring municipalities to have a code of conduct for members of municipal councils and local boards

For a copy of Bill 68 – the proposed *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2016* and to monitor the status of the Bill through the legislative process, please visit the Legislative Assembly of Ontario website: [www.ontla.on.ca](http://www.ontla.on.ca).

If you have questions please contact us at [municipalreview@ontario.ca](mailto:municipalreview@ontario.ca)

You can also contact your regional Municipal Services Office:

**Eastern Municipal Services Office**

General Inquiry: 613-545-2100

Toll Free: 800-267-9438

**Central Municipal Services Office**

General Inquiry: 416-585-6226

Toll Free: 800-668-0230

**North Municipal Services Office (Sudbury)**

General Inquiry: 705-564-0120

Toll Free: 800-461-1193

**North Municipal Services Office (Thunder Bay)**

General Inquiry: 807-475-1651

Toll Free: 800-465-5027

**Western Municipal Services Office**

General Inquiry: 519-873-4020

Toll Free: 800-265-4736

Thank you for your help to ensure that our communities remain vibrant and strong, and have the tools they need to address their changing needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Mauro', with a stylized, cursive script.

Bill Mauro  
Minister