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Sent: March 14, 2025 12:41 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Comments on Bill NO. 1

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Hello,

I understand comments on bill NO. 1 are being accepted until the end of the day. I would just like to voice my opinion as a resident of Nova Scotia that I disagree with some of the clause changes being proposed.

Specifically, I am concerned with the following:

Removal of "cause of incapacity" from clause 1. I believe the Auditor General should be impartial, and if a majority government is able to fire them without cause and hire someone else, this raises major alarm bells for impartiality. I therefore think this change and any others with a similar affect should be excluded.

The amendment to access to information that allows the denial of access to information if it is considered "frivolous or vexatious". These terms are very open to personal interpretation, and do not have well defined parameters. I worry allowing denial under these definitions could greatly impact access to information, when public trust in government is extremely important to protecting our democracy. Therefore I recommend the changes to clause 16 be excluded, as well as other similar clause changes.

Thank you,
Laurel Fougere