

**From:** Gracyn McLaughlin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 14, 2025 3:11 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Subject:** Public Bills Committee Meeting

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Good Afternoon,

My name is Gracyn, a Halifax citizen. I am writing you to express my concern regarding a couple of bills recently proposed by our current NS Government.

The proposal of Bill 1 left me shocked as the Government announced they would like to have the ability to fire the auditor general without cause and to allow auditor general reports to remain private. Not only this blatant government over reach but also distrustful. These funds belong to the public and should remain public, and I would like to see someone in this position who will hold our government accountable.

I am extremely disappointed to see the government propose Bill 6 which would lift the ban on fracking and uranium exploration. We have seen these types of projects historically ruin drinking water supplies, heavily contaminate clean air, and ruin the structural integrity of the ground - all at the expense of the citizens. Nova Scotia has spent several years and millions of dollars investing in clean renewable energy to meet climate goals, investing in this type of extraction would be a massive step back in progress.

Finally, the proposal of Bill 12 is another example of government over reach. Universities are public institutions and the work being completed at these institutions is key for a well-rounded society. I understand it is important to prioritize various research topics during the time of financial uncertainties, but giving the government the power to dictate what research is able to be completed makes it very easy for this work to only benefit the government- being non-biased is vital for good research and I fear this bill would take that option away.

It's extremely upsetting to see a majority government take advantage of their voters to implement bills that were never even mentioned during their campaign, and then use dismissive language to brush off the genuine concerns of citizens. Concerned people are not "Special Interest Groups", and in a time where there is so much speculation over the intentions of elected government officials, I would like to see the parties currently in office have more transparency regarding their goals.

Thank you,

Gracyn McLaughlin