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**From:** Kathleen Naylor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 14, 2025 1:06 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Cc:** Danielle Barkhouse  
**Subject:** For consideration re. Bill 1 at Public Bills Committee

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To the Public Bills Committee members:

I understand that you have the significant task ahead, with diminished timelines, to hear public input on several proposed bills.

I wish to submit my significant concern about several amendments in Bill 1. The limits proposed to access to information with changes to the process of Freedom of Information are antithetical to what is needed at this time of polarized politics. With a majority government, the moves to consolidate power in the Premier's office, limit public access to information appear to be designed to reduce public information or opportunity to participate in government after election time.

It's also gravely concerning to imagine non-unionized civil servants being fired without just cause. Good civil servants are in fact the long-haulers who keep our society functioning, even as political winds shift. We only need to glance at the decimation of public service in the US at this time to imagine that the move to control power is part of what this Bill is meant to do. It's unhealthy for a democracy, and right now we need to be putting the oxygen mask on our democratic processes first.

I urge the members of this committee to take a decades-long (or seven generations-long) view and ask if these changes are necessary and clearly serve democracy and the electorate. I think with the long view, you will determine that they diminish public access and participation, and trust in government decision making. We can ill afford this erosion at this time.

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Kathleen Naylor (she/her)

[REDACTED]  
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