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Re: Submission to Bills Committee on Nova Scotia Bill 127 – Section II

Dear Honourable Premier Houston and MLAs -

I am writing regarding Section 2 of Bill 127, introduced to “protect Nova Scotians.”

I am supportive of measures to protect tenants and survivors of intimate partner violence.

However, **I am deeply concerned with the amendments to the Crown Lands Act proposed in Section II.** The bill gives the impression of criminalizing those working to protect threatened habitat and species at risk, particularly First Nations people.

That this is included in an Omnibus bill feels undemocratic.

As a physician working with Mi'kmaq and vulnerable patients I am particularly disturbed by the contents of this bill. I live and work in rural Nova Scotia.

Please let me know how your government plans to address these concerns.

Respectfully,

Dr. Aaron Bates