

To the Public Bills Committee,

I am writing to you to express my grave concern over this omnibus bill (Bill 127), which aims to put into place a vast governmental overreach in regards to those citizens who wish to peacefully protest the destruction of OUR OWN crown land. These lands belong to all of us, but our premier seems bent on destroying them with his short-sighted, unscientific, greed-driven forestry practices. This tyrannical bill could mean large fines or jail time for citizens who are trying to protect vital habitat from wanton clear-cutting. Prohibiting by law acts of peaceful protest because they interfere with the profit-making of the premier's rich industry buddies is sickening beyond belief and sounds like he's spending too much time studying the Trump playbook. We will not tolerate this kind of dictatorial fascism here.

More enlightened leaders of the world understand forest ecology, how biodiverse ecosystems support human life, and know that we must take quick action to avoid depleting the natural resources that we depend on. The premier's short-sighted approach to resource extraction shows us all that he isn't a strong leader for our future. We need smart leaders who can manage resources sustainably, cooperate with Indigenous leaders, and foster a sense of trust with the general public. This sneaky omnibus aims to strip us of rights and the ability to use peaceful means to try to protect what is ours and what we need to survive.

Our leaders are legally and morally obligated to uphold laws regarding the protection of species at risk, including their vital habitat. Countless species at risk are being violated by Houston's aggressive extraction tactics, while also at risk are the rights of citizens to defend against tyrannical, profit-driven practices that this omnibus bill paves the way for. We see rights being eroded rapidly in the country to our south. We must not allow that to happen here. Bill 127 is a disgusting abuse of power and should not be passed as is. History will not reflect favourably upon those who ignore the calls to protect our natural world, the only world that can sustain human life.

A concerned citizen,

Pamela McDormand