

Listen to Survivors & Believe Them - Pass Lydia's Law (Bill 112)!

To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

WHEREAS in 2025, 1,639 cases of sexual assault were withdrawn or stayed before trial, allowing the accused to walk free;

WHEREAS the court system can be a hostile and retraumatizing space for survivors;

WHEREAS the 2019 Auditor General's report recommended proactively reporting on sexual assault and intimate partner violence cases in the court system, including capturing reasons for cases being withdrawn or stayed before trial;

WHEREAS the Independent Legal Advice (ILA) Program is insufficient in meeting the needs of survivors;

WHEREAS the Victim Quick Response Program is limited and not always accessible;

WHEREAS survivors face a 5-year time limit to access mental health supports funded by regulatory bodies;

Therefore, we, the undersigned, respectfully petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to pass Bill 112, Lydia's Law, adopt Recommendations 1 and 3 of the Auditor General's 2019 Annual Report, make the ILA program more accessible to survivors, review the Victim Quick Response Program to ensure it is meeting its mandate, and remove the time limits for survivors to access mental health supports.



**TERENCE
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