

# Make Petitions Accessible

To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

**WHEREAS** Ontarians have a right to participate in democracy by organizing petitions and supporting the petitions organized by others;

**WHEREAS** individuals who organize petitions must follow guidance provided by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario when receiving the support of Ontarians;

**WHEREAS** Ontarians with disabilities, including sensory, mobility, developmental, behavioural, communicative, and mental impairments, should not face discrimination when organizing or supporting petitions;

**WHEREAS** Ontario's petitioning process requires signatures, which people with some disabilities cannot provide;

**WHEREAS** the 2017 Canadian Survey on Disability found that 19.5% of individuals with disabilities did not use the Internet;

**WHEREAS** guidance from the Legislative Assembly is needed to make supporting petitions more accessible for people with disabilities;

**THEREFORE WE, THE UNDERSIGNED** call on the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to commission a comprehensive independent review to identify barriers Ontarians with disabilities face when organizing or supporting petitions, to ensure guidance is available to all petitioners that explains how to receive the support of individuals with disabilities, and to recognize that solutions can not assume every Ontarian with a disability uses the Internet.



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