

Legislative  
Assembly  
of Ontario



Assemblée  
législative  
de l'Ontario

43RD PARLIAMENT, 1ST SESSION

43E LÉGISLATURE, 1RE SESSION

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

PROCÈS-VERBAUX

No. 153

N° 153

Monday  
May 6, 2024

Lundi  
6 mai 2024

Hon. Ted Arnott  
Speaker

L'hon. Ted Arnott  
le président

**10:15 A.M.**

Prayers

O Canada

Royal Anthem

The Speaker informed the House,

That during the adjournment, the following document was tabled:

*Rights Unrecognized: Mia's Story: Investigation into the adequacy of services provided by York Region Children's Aid Society to "Mia" from the Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario (Sessional Paper No. 549) (Tabled April 29, 2024).*

The Speaker addressed the House:

I have a brief statement I wish to make regarding the controversy that has surrounded the wearing of keffiyehs in the legislative precinct and the Chamber.

As we know, areas assigned to Members, Caucuses, or the media are their own individual domains. These spaces are not subject to any restrictions relating to the choice of attire by their occupants.

However, there have always been different rules governing the Chamber. I return again to an explanation of our longstanding practice, going back decades, that items of clothing or accessories, including t-shirts, jerseys, scarves, ribbons and pins, that in the opinion of the Chair are being used to make a deliberate statement, may not be worn in the Chamber, unless there is unanimous consent of the House to permit Members to do so.

When the issue of wearing keffiyehs in the House was raised with me, I reviewed the matter, and I concluded that, at this time, a Member seeking to wear the keffiyeh in the Chamber was intending to make an overt political statement by wearing it.

I stand by that conclusion, and believe that events which have transpired since have confirmed it to be true.

On at least two occasions, when it was raised, the House denied unanimous consent for the wearing of keffiyehs in the Chamber. Had unanimous consent been granted, I would have had no objection to the wearing of the keffiyeh in the Chamber. Again, the Speaker is the servant of the House.

Let me add that I never concluded or stated that the keffiyeh is not a cultural symbol for many in the Arab and Muslim communities.

Since the issue has become so controversial, I think it is necessary to point out that there is not a blanket "ban" which singles out only the keffiyeh for those wish to wear it and enter the legislative precinct.

It has been our standard practice, again for many decades, to ask those who enter the Assembly not wear any attire which appears to be intended to make a political statement of any sort.

This is intended to promote order and decorum, and mostly has had the desired effect through the years.

But in this case, which unfortunately became politicized, it has instead fostered division and discord, both in this House and in our communities in the province.

**10 H 15**

Prières

Ô Canada

Hymne royal

Le Président a informé l'Assemblée,

Que pendant l'ajournement, le document suivant a été déposé :

*Des droits non reconnus : L'histoire de Mia : Enquête sur l'adéquation des services fournis à « Mia » par la Société d'aide à l'enfance de la région de York du Bureau de l'Ombudsman de l'Ontario (Document parlementaire n° 549) (Déposé le 29 avril 2024).*

Le Président s'adresse à l'Assemblée :

As Speaker, my intent has always been to uphold the conventions and principles that were designed to bring us together to debate important issues. Diversity has been and remains one of Ontario's great strengths.

Therefore, I wish to clarify that Members, staff, and visitors wearing the keffiyeh will be permitted entry to the legislative precinct.

However, in line with my previous statements in the House, the keffiyeh is not permitted to be worn in the Chamber or the galleries at this time without the unanimous consent of the House.

I will remind all Members and guests that demonstrations in the building are always prohibited, and Members must be able to fulfill their Parliamentary duties without obstruction.

I thank the House for its attention.

During Question Period, the Member for Hamilton Centre (Sarah Jama), having disregarded the authority of the Chair, was named by the Speaker and directed to withdraw from the service of the House for the balance of the sessional day.

Pendant la Période de questions, la députée de Hamilton-Centre (Sarah Jama), a fait fi de l'autorité de la présidence, a été désigné par son nom et a été contrainte de se retirer de l'Assemblée pour le reste du jour de session.

The Speaker informed the House,

Le Président a informé l'Assemblée,

That my earlier authorization to permit the Members for Toronto—St. Paul's (Jill Andrew) and Scarborough Southwest (Doly Begum) to switch seats in the Chamber pursuant to the authority granted to the Speaker under Standing Order 2 is no longer required.

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The House recessed at 12:00 p.m.

À 12 h, l'Assemblée a suspendu la séance.

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## 1:00 P.M.

## 13 H

### REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

### RAPPORTS DE COMITÉS

Steve Clark from the Standing Committee on Social Policy presented the Committee's report as follows:

Pursuant to Standing Order 63, your Committee has selected the 2024-2025 Estimates of the following Ministries for consideration:

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ministry of Long-Term Care

Ministry of Colleges and Universities

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

Standing Committee on the Interior:

Comité permanent des affaires intérieures :

**Bill 171**, An Act to enact the Veterinarian Professionals Act, 2024 and amend or repeal various acts.

**Projet de loi 171**, Loi visant à édicter la Loi de 2024 sur les professionnels vétérinaires et à modifier ou à abroger diverses lois.

Reported as amended.

Rapport est fait du projet de loi modifié.

Report adopted.

Ordered for Third Reading.

## INTRODUCTION OF GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was introduced and read the first time:

**Bill 190**, An Act to amend various statutes with respect to employment and labour and other matters. Hon. David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development).

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

**Bill Pr47**, An Act to revive 1147946 Ontario Inc. Christine Hogarth.

**Bill 191**, An Act respecting the establishment of a Childcare and Early Years Workforce Strategy Advisory Committee. Teresa J. Armstrong; Jessica Bell; Bhutila Karpoche; Chandra Pasma.

## PETITIONS

No./N°	Petition title/Titre de la pétition	Presented by/Présentée par
<b>P-21</b>	Health care privatization	Chandra Pasma
<b>P-30</b>	Broadband in Northern Ontario	France Gélinas
<b>P-41</b>	Normes de soins minimales	France Gélinas
<b>P-82</b>	Arts and culture sector	France Gélinas
<b>P-101</b>	Ontario Place	Kristyn Wong-Tam
<b>P-104</b>	Amendment to Regional Official Plan	Catherine Fife
<b>P-194</b>	Take-home cancer drugs	France Gélinas
<b>P-220</b>	Hospital parking costs for staff	France Gélinas
<b>P-221</b>	Post-secondary autonomy	Bhutila Karpoche
<b>P-221</b>	Post-secondary autonomy	Peggy Sattler
<b>P-222</b>	Prostate Specific Antigen testing	Catherine Fife
<b>P-223</b>	Keffiyeh	Teresa J. Armstrong
<b>P-223</b>	Keffiyeh	Bhutila Karpoche

Rapport adopté.

Ordonné pour la troisième lecture.

## DÉPÔT DE PROJETS DE LOI ÉMANANT DU GOUVERNEMENT

Le projet de loi suivant est présenté et lu une première fois :

**Projet de loi 190**, Loi modifiant diverses lois relatives à l'emploi et au travail et à d'autres questions. L'hon. David Piccini (Ministre du Travail, de l'Immigration, de la Formation et du Développement des compétences).

## DÉPÔT DE PROJETS DE LOI

Les projets de loi suivants sont présentés et lus une première fois :

**Projet de loi 191**, Loi concernant la création du comité consultatif de la stratégie relative aux préposés aux services pour la petite enfance et la garde d'enfants. Teresa J. Armstrong; Jessica Bell; Bhutila Karpoche; Chandra Pasma.

## PÉTITIONS

Pursuant to Standing Order 7(e), the Deputy Government House Leader (Trevor Jones) indicated that the evening meeting period was no longer required and therefore cancelled.

Conformément à l'article 7 e) du Règlement, le leader parlementaire adjoint du gouvernement (Trevor Jones) a indiqué que la réunion en soirée n'était plus nécessaire et par conséquent était annulée.

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

Third Reading of **Bill 166**, An Act to amend the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act.

Debate arose and after some time,

The Acting Speaker (Bhutila Karpoche) informed the House:

That the Bill introduced earlier today by the Member for Nickel Belt (France Gélinas), introduced as "An Act to amend the Health Protection and Promotion Act", contravenes Standing Order 39(d), which provides that no bill be introduced in blank or imperfect form. The Bill was introduced with a truncated version of the title, and the question on the motion for First Reading was put using this incorrect version of the title. The Bill is therefore out of order and it will not be added to the *Orders and Notices Paper*.

Debate resumed and after some time, the House adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

### ORDRES DU JOUR

Troisième lecture du **Projet de loi 166**, Loi modifiant la Loi sur le ministère de la Formation et des Collèges et Universités.

Il s'élève un débat et après quelque temps,

La présidente suppléante (Bhutila Karpoche) a informé l'Assemblée,

Le débat a repris et après quelque temps, à 18 h 01, l'Assemblée a ajourné ses travaux.

### PETITIONS TABLED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 42(A)

No./N°	Petition title/Titre de la pétition	Presented by/Présentée par
P-221	Post-secondary autonomy	John Fraser

### SESSIONAL PAPERS PRESENTED PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 43

No., Suffix/N°, Suffixe	Title/Titre	Date tabled/Date de dépôt
548	Cabinet Office, Certificate pursuant to Standing Order 110(f)(1) re Intended Appointments: April 26, 2024	April 26, 2024
550	Cabinet Office, Certificate pursuant to Standing Order 110(f)(1) re Intended Appointments: May 3, 2024	May 3, 2024
551	Compendia: Hon. David Piccini, <b>Bill 190</b> , An Act to amend various statutes with respect to employment and labour and other matters/L'hon. David Piccini, <b>Projet de loi 190</b> , Loi modifiant diverses lois relatives à l'emploi et au travail et à d'autres questions	May 6, 2024

### PÉTITIONS DÉPOSÉES CONFORMÉMENT À L'ARTICLE 42 A) DU RÈGLEMENT

### DOCUMENTS PARLEMENTAIRES DÉPOSÉS CONFORMÉMENT À L'ARTICLE 43 DU RÈGLEMENT

**RESPONSES TO WRITTEN  
QUESTIONS**

No./N°      Submitted by/Présentée par

**172**      John Vanthof**RÉPONSES AUX QUESTIONS  
ÉCRITES**

Outcome/Résultat

Final answer tabled May 6, 2024

**RESPONSES TO PETITIONS**No./N°      Petition title/Titre de la  
pétition**P-62**      Conservation authorities**RÉPONSES AUX PÉTITIONS**

Presented by/Présentée par      Date tabled/Date de dépôt

Sandy Shaw

March 4, 2024

March 18, 2024

March 19, 2024

**P-121**      Amyloidosis diagnosis

Sandy Shaw

March 4, 2024