

Ministry of Labour

Office of the Deputy Minister

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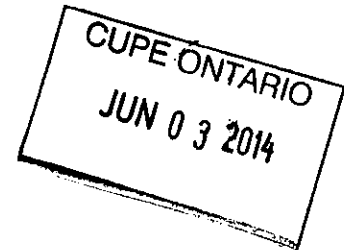
May 29, 2014

Ministère du Travail

Bureau du sous-ministre

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Mr. Fred Hahn, President
CUPE Ontario
Mr. Jeff Van Pelt, Chairperson
CACO
1-80 Commerce Valley Drive East
Markham, Ontario
L3T 0B2

Dear Mr. Hahn and Mr. Van Pelt:

The Premier of Ontario has forwarded to the Minister of Labour a copy of your letter about Private Member's Bill 67. As a general election will take place on June 12, 2014, I am responding on behalf of the ministry.

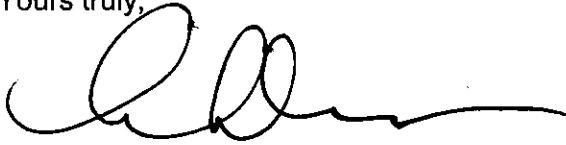
As you likely know, Bill 67 was carried at Second Reading in the legislature on February 27, 2014. The bill was then referred to the Standing Committee on General Government. At that point there are opportunities for the public to suggest changes to the bill of the nature you describe. As the legislature was dissolved following the election call, all bills that were under consideration, including Bill 67, will no longer proceed.

The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) addresses worker claims for work-related traumatic mental stress, such as PTSD. Under the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997*, workers are entitled to benefits for traumatic mental stress that is an acute reaction to a sudden and unexpected traumatic event arising in the course of employment.

As you are aware, claims for PTSD are adjudicated by the WSIB case by case, and according to the WSIB's operational policy. This policy's guidelines explain that workers are entitled to benefits for traumatic mental stress due to an employer's actions or decisions that are not part of the employment function, such as violence or threats of violence. A specialized team of case managers is in place at the WSIB to adjudicate traumatic mental stress claims. A right of appeal exists for all workers and employers who are dissatisfied with a decision made by a WSIB case manager.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophie Dennis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sophie Dennis
Deputy Minister of Labour (Acting)

c: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier