



It's taking us down the  
wrong route

**Proposed Bill 66: Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act is BAD for our environment, our water, our air, our health.**

*Bill 66 represents an unprecedented and unacceptable attack on legislative provisions which currently safeguard environmental quality and public health and safety throughout Ontario.*  
*Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA).*

**What You Need to Know (Source: Ontario Nature).**

1. It affects every municipality in Ontario. Bill 66 allows municipalities across the province to create “open-for-business by-laws” that would trump critical legal requirements to protect water, natural heritage, farmland and human health and well-being. These bylaws would take precedence over municipal official plans.
2. It threatens drinking water across Ontario. Open-for-business by-laws would override policies in approved source protection plans intended to protect existing and future sources of municipal drinking water from threats such as landfills, sewage systems and improper handling of fuel, manure and pesticides.
3. It threatens wetlands, woodlands and habitat for species at risk across Ontario. Open-for-business by-laws would circumvent protections for these important habitats and species set out in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) under the Planning Act.
4. It threatens farmland across Ontario. Open-for-business by-laws would bypass agricultural protections set out, for example, in the PPS. This could lead to more urban sprawl.
5. It threatens two million acres of natural areas and farmland across the Greenbelt. Open-for-business by-laws would override protections for natural heritage and farmland set out in the Greenbelt Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.
6. It threatens freshwater and the ecological health of the Lake Simcoe watershed. Open-for-business bylaws would trump requirements set out in the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan.
7. It would undermine efforts to make Ontario communities more livable, sustainable and resilient. Open-for-business by-laws would override PPS policies supporting active transportation, affordable housing, green infrastructure and climate resiliency.
8. It would compromise transparency and public engagement. Contrary to current legal requirements (Planning Act, Clean Water Act), the by-laws could be passed without any prior public notice, behind closed doors.
9. It would leave citizens without recourse. Community members would not be able to appeal open-for-business by-laws to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.
10. It threatens human and wildlife health through increased exposure to toxic chemicals. Bill 66 proposes to repeal the Toxics Reduction Act, which requires certain industrial facilities to consider ways to reduce the use and emission of toxic chemicals in their operations. <https://ontarionature.org/bill-66-facts/>

## TAKE ACTION: #NIXBILL66

Environment Hamilton invites you to join the #NixBill66 Campaign and make your opposition to this Bill heard. Here's what you can do:

### Prepare and Submit Comments to the Environmental Registry for Ontario

- Submit comments on the proposed bill and associated changes through the Environmental Registry for Ontario (ERO postings were previously referred to as EBR postings) until **January 20th**.

### Step-by-step instructions:

To access the Environmental Registry for Ontario visit <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-4293>  
Register an account in your name (top right-hand corner).

**You will be commenting on Bill 66 as well as Schedule 5 and Schedule 10.**

1. Make your comments to the overarching Bill 66 by clicking on the comment button, on the left-hand side of the page. <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-4293>
2. Scroll down the page to get to **Schedule 5: Repeal the Toxics Reduction Act**. There are two postings. Please comment on both. ([ERO # 013-4234](#)) and ([ERO # 013-4235](#)).
3. Now scroll down to **Schedule 10 Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**. Click on "Proposed open-for-business planning tool" ([ERO # 013-4125](#)) and comment. Click on "New Regulation under the Planning Act for Open-for-Business Planning Tool" ([ERO # 013-4239](#)).

\*\*To keep things manageable, feel free to use the same set of comments for each posting.\*\*

### Other Actions you can Take

- Pick up a lawn sign from our office
- Connect with your MPP and voice your concern. Find your MPP with this handy tool, thanks to Environmental Defence <https://www.stopbill66.ca/>
- Stay tuned for **part 2** of the campaign to get the City of Hamilton to pass a resolution to reject Bill 66
- Sign up to receive updates and to help with other actions/efforts yet to come
- Visit our website for updates and news: [https://www.environmenthamilton.org/take\\_action](https://www.environmenthamilton.org/take_action)
- Call or text Doug Ford 416-805-2156

### Contact:

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