

DEFERRED

I move that Bill 59 be sent to the Department of Justice to be examined and redrafted, aligned with the four principals put forward by a large number of advocacy groups in our province, keeping in mind the cost to Nova Scotia private service suppliers, specifically:

1. Bill 59 fulfill government's promise of equality for all Nova Scotians and to end discrimination against people with disabilities and removes existing barriers and prevents new ones.

2. The bill applies to public and private services, facilities, transportation and communication; incorporates a broad and forward looking definition of disability and accords people with disabilities a central role in creating and implementing the Act.

3. The bill creates and enforces standards, standards adhere to the principles of Universal Design and include standards for assistive technologies and accessibility services and discourage arbitrary exemptions.

4. The bill contains meaningful deadlines, employs incentives to advance the purpose of the Act, accepts and investigates complaints, enforces compliance with penalties, do not subordinate fundamental human rights to cost-benefit analysis, requires government to purchase accessible goods and services and harmonizes with other legislation.