From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:

February 21, 2025 4:02 PM Office of the Legislative Counsel Pugsley Fraser, Amy Law Amendments Committee re: Bill 1

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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to register my alarm upon reading that Tim Houston has introduced a bill which would allow cabinet to dismiss our Auditor General "for reasons other than cause or incapacity".

For many decades I have felt comforted in knowing that no matter what happens, there is always one entity, the Auditor General, who works for everyday Nova Scotians such as myself ... sifting for the truth, sorting facts from fiction, and speaking truth to power without fear or favour while unbeholden to 'the powers that be'.

Taken together with recent Conservative attacks on freedom of information and efforts to bully the media, their proposal to diminish the Auditor General's ability to provide non-partisan governmental oversight to the general public appears to be symptomatic of an very worrying political mindset.

Churchill once said, "Truth is heavy, therefore few care to carry it." Could it be that Conservatives no longer have the strength or integrity to carry this burden?

Your truly,

Trish Rowat