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February 28, 2019

Doug Downey, MP
Parliamentary Assistant
Ministry of Finance
Frost Building South, 7th Floor
Queen's Park Crescent, Toronto, ON
M7A 1Y7
Doug.Downey@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Downey:

Re: *Private Member's Bill - Planning Amendment Act, 2019*

The Federation of Ontario Law Associations ("FOLA") is writing to unconditionally endorse Private Member's Bill to amend the *Planning Act*.

FOLA is an organization representing the associations and members of forty-six local law associations across Ontario. Together with the Toronto Lawyer's Association, our members represent approximately 12,000 lawyers across the province. The vast majority of these lawyers provide front-line services to the Ontario public. Many of our members deal with the *Planning Act* on a regular basis as part of a real estate practice, and the proposed amendments will enhance their ability to assist their clients and will make life more affordable for Ontarians.

We applaud this Bill for eliminating unnecessary red tape by removing costly requirements that will leave more money in the pockets of taxpayers. The proposed amendments will align the *Planning Act* with the expectations of the public.

Yours truly,

Mike Winward
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