

# Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills

## **Final Report** **Bill 202, *Child, Youth and Family*** ***Enhancement (Protecting Alberta's*** ***Children) Amendment Act, 2019***

Thirtieth Legislature  
First Session  
June 2019



**COMMITTEES**  
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

9820 – 107 Street

Edmonton AB T5K 1E7

780.415.2878

[committees@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:committees@assembly.ab.ca)



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS AND PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS**

June 2019

**To the Honourable Nathan Cooper  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
of the Province of Alberta**

I have the honour of submitting, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills, its final report containing recommendations on Bill 202, *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement (Protecting Alberta's Children) Amendment Act, 2019*, for consideration by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Sincerely,

*[original signed]*

Mike Ellis, MLA  
Chair, Standing Committee  
on Private Bills and  
Private Members' Public Bills



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**MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS AND PRIVATE  
MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS**

**30th Legislature, First Session**

Mike Ellis, MLA  
Chair  
Calgary-West (UCP)

Joseph Schow, MLA  
Deputy Chair  
Cardston-Siksika (UCP)

Richard Gotfried, MLA  
Calgary-Fish Creek (UCP)

Chris Nielsen, MLA  
Edmonton-Decore (NDP)

Nate Horner, MLA  
Drumheller-Stettler (UCP)

Jeremy Nixon, MLA  
Calgary-Klein (UCP)

Janis Irwin, MLA  
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP)

Rakhi Pancholi, MLA  
Edmonton-Whitemud (NDP)

Nathan Neudorf, MLA  
Lethbridge-East (UCP)

Lori Sigurdson, MLA  
Edmonton-Riverview (NDP)

R.J. Sigurdson, MLA  
Highwood (UCP)

**Substitutions Pursuant to Standing Order 56(2.1-2.4)**

Michaela Glasgo, MLA<sup>\*</sup>  
Brooks-Medicine Hat (UCP)

**Members also in Attendance on June 11, 2019:**

Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, MLA  
Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (UCP)

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<sup>\*</sup> Substitute for Richard Gotfried on June 11, 2019.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Bill 202, *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement (Protecting Alberta's Children) Amendment Act, 2019*, was introduced and received first reading on May 30, 2019.

## 2.0 ORDER OF REFERENCE

Pursuant to Standing Order 74.11:

- (1) After a public Bill other than a Government Bill has been read a first time, the Bill stands referred to the Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills Committee.
- (2) The Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills Committee shall report back to the Assembly within 8 sitting days of the day on which the Bill was referred to the Committee.

Pursuant to Government Motion 11, Part B

And be it further resolved that upon passage of this motion any public Bills other than Government Bills that stand on the Order Paper for second reading are deemed referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills in accordance with Standing Order 74.11(1) and notwithstanding Standing Order 74.11(2) the Committee shall report back to the Assembly on these Bills within 12 sitting days of the day this motion is passed.

## 3.0 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

As part of the Committee's review of Bill 202, Committee meetings were held on June 4 and June 11, 2019. The sponsor of Bill 202, Mike Ellis, Member for Calgary-West, gave a presentation on the Bill to the Committee on June 11, 2019.

## 4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to Standing Order 74.2, the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills Committee recommends

**that Bill 202, *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement (Protecting Alberta's Children) Amendment Act, 2019*, proceed.**

## APPENDIX A: MINORITY REPORT

To the Chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills ,

At the June 11, 2019 meeting of the Private Members Bills Committee, UCP members voted for Bill 202 to proceed to the House without consultation with stakeholders or a technical briefing from the Ministry on the impact of these proposed amendments.

NDP MLAs strongly believe that hearing from stakeholders would strengthen understanding of how this bill will impact protections for vulnerable children, and allow for a more informed debate.

From the NDP Caucus perspective, the UCP is blocking a reasonable request, which would give committee members the ability to better serve the interests of all Albertans. Moreover, valuable feedback from stakeholders on bills and policies is integral to ensuring legislation works as intended.

NDP Caucus representatives on this committee agree that Bill 202 should proceed to the assembly and be debated at the earliest opportunity. However, given the rules governing when Private Members' Business may be considered in the Assembly, an additional meeting for vital input would not have delayed this Bill moving through the house.

As the official opposition, it is our job to ensure we are accountable to Albertans. When committees are blocked from doing important work, it only proves that the government does not want to hear from or consult with those who are most affected by their agenda.

Thank you,

Chris Nielsen, MLA Edmonton-Decore

Rakhi Pancholi, MLA Edmonton-Whitemud

Janis Irwin, MLA Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood

Lori Sigurdson, MLA Edmonton-Riverview