

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs**

Office of the Minister

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17-73965

Dear Head of Council,

I am pleased to announce Bill 68 – the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017* received Royal Assent on May 30, 2017.

The *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017* is the result of the review of three key elements of Ontario's municipal legislative framework: the *Municipal Act, 2001*, *City of Toronto Act, 2006* and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*. This package of amendments includes feedback that we heard from municipalities, the public and other stakeholders during 2015's Municipal Legislation Review.

The legislation, as amended, helps make our local governments more open, accountable and flexible in responding to the needs of residents. These changes will:

- Increase fairness and reduce barriers for women and parents elected to municipal governments and school boards by allowing time off for pregnancy or parental leave
- Provide broader municipal investment powers to eligible municipalities that may help raise more revenue to improve local infrastructure
- Ensure the public and municipal councillors have access to integrity commissioners with a broadened role related to conflicts of interest and municipal codes of conduct
- Enhance local government accountability and integrity across the province by requiring municipalities to have a code of conduct for members of municipal councils and local boards

For a copy of Bill 68 – the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017* please visit the Legislative Assembly of Ontario website: [www.ontla.on.ca](http://www.ontla.on.ca).

Thank you for your help to ensure that our communities remain vibrant and strong, and have the tools they need to address their changing needs. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Mauro'.

Bill Mauro  
Minister