

# Give communities a say on cannabis retail licensing

## TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:

**WHEREAS** cannabis is a legal, regulated product and should be available in a way that meets community needs; and

**WHEREAS** the Ford government's licensing approach has led to communities with no retail stores at all while other neighbourhoods are seeing increasing concentrations of them at the expense of other shops and services; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities have no authority to determine the location of cannabis retail shops in a given area or their proximity to one another; and

**WHEREAS** the COVID-19 pandemic has forced too many local businesses to be evicted or closed, further impacting the services available to local communities;

## THEREFORE WE, the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to pass Bill 235, the Cannabis License Amendment Act, to:

- Align the process for new cannabis retail licenses with that used for liquor licenses
- Give municipalities and, through them, the local community, a greater say in the licensing process
- Ensure access to legal cannabis is maintained without pushing out diverse businesses that make our local economies thrive

Signature	Name (please print)	Address and City	Postal Code	Email

**RETURN COMPLETED PETITIONS TO:** Marit Stiles, MPP for Davenport, Rm 157, Main Legislative Bldg., Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A8