Protecting children: forward, not backward, on sex ed

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:

Whereas the Health and Physical Education Curriculum empowers young people to make informed decisions about relationships and their bodies;

Whereas gender-based violence, gender inequality, unintended pregnancies, "sexting," and HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) pose serious risks to the safety and well-being of young people;

Whereas one in three women and one in six men experience sexual violence in Canada, and a lack of age-appropriate education about sexual health and healthy relationships leaves children and youth vulnerable to exploitation;

Whereas one in five parents reported their own child being a victim of cyberbullying, and;

Whereas Doug Ford and the Conservative government is dragging Ontario backward, requiring students to learn an outdated sex ed curriculum that excludes information about consent, sexual orientation, gender identity, sexting, cyber-bullying and safe and healthy relationships:

We the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to direct the Ministry of Education to continue the use of the 2015 Health and Physical Education curriculum in schools and move Ontario forward, not backward.

When complete, please send to:

Ontario NDP Caucus, Room N200
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A7

Signature	**Name** please print	**Address**	**City**	**Postal Code**	**Email**	**Phone Number**