

# Stop the Download and Automation of ODSP

## TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:

**WHEREAS** the Ontario government plans to download the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) onto municipalities starting in June 2022 and automating the application process for social assistance.

**WHEREAS** municipalities across Ontario have been severely impacted financially by COVID-19 and cannot afford to take on the responsibility of the cost of the program.

**WHEREAS** the high success rate of appeals to the Social Benefits Tribunal (SBT) suggests problems with the application process and the initial adjudication of applications, and it can take years for an appeal to the SBT.

**WHEREAS** any individuals attempting to access the SBT are living with a disability or chronic illness, may lack access to technology or legal support, and are also dealing with the many challenges of living through the pandemic.

**WHEREAS** the current social assistance rates for both ODSP and Ontario Works are well below the poverty line and people need proper financial assistance to be able to pay for the additional cost of COVID-19, housing, food, supplies, and beyond.

**WHEREAS** casework requires human interaction between workers and recipients, and no one should be at risk to lose their jobs if the government decides to amalgamate ODSP and Ontario Works.

**THEREFORE we the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario** to stop the download and automation of ODSP and increase social assistance rates to bring people out of poverty.

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To keep updated, please fill in your email and/or phone number. This portion of the petition will be detached and kept confidential and will not be shared with the provincial government or any other parties.

Signature	Name (please print)	Address	City	Postal Code	Email	Phone Number

When complete send to: Lisa Gretzky, MPP • 2443 Dougall Ave. (Dorwin Plaza) • Windsor, ON • N8X 1T3