

# Anti-Replacement Worker Legislation

September 28, 2010

To: Ontario Citizens Supporting Anti-Replacement Worker Legislation

I am writing to ask for your support and assistance in bringing forward a bill that would ban the use of temporary replacement workers in Ontario.

In our Province 97% of collective agreements are negotiated without work disruptions; only 3% involve strikes or lock-outs; and few of them involve the use of temporary replacement workers. However, research has shown that when replacement workers are used in labour disputes, the impact in the short and long term on people and their communities can be devastating. In contrast laws banning the use of temporary replacement workers reduce the length and divisiveness of labour disputes.

A law banning the use of temporary replacement workers has existed in Québec since 1978 and in British Columbia since 1993. Successive governments in those two provinces have never repealed those laws. A similar law existed in Ontario from 1993 to 1996 and during that period of time, investments in Ontario increased. We need to bring this law back and I've introduced a private member's Bill that would do just that. It's Bill 45, the Labour Relations Amendment Act (Replacement Workers) and the Bill will be debated and voted on in the Ontario legislature on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Those are a few reasons why Ontario needs a law banning the use of temporary replacement workers during a strike or lock-out. After a year-long strike in my riding where temporary replacement workers were used, I think Ontario is ready for such a law.

I need your help in a few ways. Attached is a petition supporting anti-scab legislation. We need as many signatures on the petition as possible. Please make copies and distribute to your membership Meet with your local MPP and ask that MPP to present the petition in the legislature and urge your MPP to vote in support of Bill 45 on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

We need to mount a campaign, build momentum and bring back anti-scab legislation to this province. We need thousand of petitions signed in every single riding in this province. We need this to happen over the next few weeks.

If you can help in this campaign, please contact my Queen's Park office at 416-325-2507 or via email at [fgelinas-qp@ndp.on.ca](mailto:fgelinas-qp@ndp.on.ca)

I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

France Gélinas MPP Nickel Belt