



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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March 2, 2010

Hon. Dalton McGuinty  
Premier  
Rm 281 Legislative Bldg  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

OPEN LETTER

Dear Premier McGuinty,

I am writing to ask you to save Bill 143, *Hawkins Gignac Act (Carbon Monoxide Detectors)*, 2009.

I introduced this bill in the wake of a tragedy in Woodstock, in which OPP Constable Laurie Hawkins, her husband Richard, and their two children, Cassandra and Jordan, were killed in their home by carbon monoxide poisoning. The bill is named *The Hawkins Gignac Act* in their honour.

It passed second reading unanimously on April 2, 2009. However, since that time, your House Leader has refused to make this life saving legislation a priority.

It might come as a surprise to some that carbon monoxide (CO) is the leading cause of fatal poisonings in North America. However, we can take steps to prevent these tragedies from happening in the future. My bill would require functioning carbon monoxide detectors in every Ontario home and save lives.

Today nobody would question the necessity of smoke alarms in our homes, but we tend to overlook how important it is to protect ourselves from deadly gases, such as carbon monoxide.

Premier, I ask you again to put safety of Ontarians first and ensure that the *Hawkins Gignac Act* is not lost when the new session of the Ontario Legislature begins.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ernie Hardeman".

Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford  
PC Critic for Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

