

Legislative  
Assembly  
of Ontario



Assemblée  
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69 ELIZABETH II, 2020

## Bill 3

**An Act providing for the development of a provincial framework  
on hospice palliative care**

**Mr. S. Oosterhoff**

**Private Member's Bill**

1st Reading      July 18, 2018

2nd Reading     July 26, 2018

3rd Reading

Royal Assent

*(Reprinted as amended by the Standing Committee on General Government  
and as reported to the Legislative Assembly November 26, 2020)*

*(The provisions in this Bill will be renumbered after 3rd Reading)*



This reprint of the Bill is marked to indicate the changes that were made in Committee.  
The changes are indicated by underlines for new text and a ~~striethrough~~ for deleted text.

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bill enacts the Compassionate Care Act, 2020. The purpose of the Act is to develop a framework to ensure that every Ontarian has access to quality palliative care.

The Act requires the Minister of Health ~~and Long Term Care~~ to develop a provincial framework designed to support improved access to ~~hospice~~ palliative care. The Minister must table a report setting out the provincial framework in the Legislative Assembly within one year after the Bill comes into force. Within ~~five~~three years after the report is tabled, the Minister must prepare and table a report on the state of ~~hospice~~ palliative care in Ontario. Each report must be published on a Government of Ontario website.

**An Act providing for the development of a provincial framework on hospice palliative care**

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

**Purpose**

**0.1** The purpose of this Act is to develop a framework to ensure that every Ontarian has access to quality palliative care.

**Provincial framework on hospice palliative care**

**1** (1) The Minister of Health and Long Term Care shall develop a provincial framework designed to support improved access to hospice palliative care, provided through hospitals, home care, long term care homes and hospices, that, among other things,

- (a) defines what hospice palliative care is;
- (b) identifies the hospice palliative care training and education needs of health care providers as well as other caregivers;
- (c) identifies measures to support hospice palliative care providers;
- (d) promotes research and the collection of data on hospice palliative care;
- (e) identifies measures to facilitate consistent access to hospice palliative care across Ontario; and
- (f) takes into consideration existing hospice palliative care frameworks, strategies and best practices.

**Provincial framework on palliative care**

**1** (1) The Minister of Health shall develop a provincial framework designed to support improved access to palliative care, provided through hospitals, home care, long-term care homes and hospices, that, among other things,

- (a) defines what palliative care is;
- (b) identifies the palliative care training and education needs of health care providers as well as other caregivers;
- (c) identifies measures to support palliative care providers;
- (d) identifies research and common data elements on palliative care;
- (d.1) identifies measures to facilitate equitable access to palliative care across Ontario, with a focus on underserved populations;
- (e) identifies measures to facilitate consistent access to palliative care across Ontario;
- (f) takes into consideration existing palliative care frameworks, strategies and best practices;
- (g) takes into consideration and supports the needs of specific patient populations, including paediatric patients; and
- (h) leverages the expertise and capacities of other key partners in Ontario's health system, such as the Ministry of Long-Term Care, Ontario Health, Ontario Health Teams, and other providers and organizations.

**Consultation**

**(2)** The Minister shall develop the provincial framework in consultation with hospice palliative care providers, any other affected ministries, the federal government and any other persons or entities that the Minister considers appropriate in the circumstances.

**Development of framework**

**(2)** In the development of the framework, the Minister shall consider information and feedback received from previous and ongoing consultations with palliative care providers, other affected ministries, the federal government and any other persons or entities.

**Same**

**(3)** The Minister shall initiate the consultations referred to in subsection (2) within six months after the day on which this Act comes into force.

**Report to Assembly**

~~2 (1) The Minister of Health and Long Term Care shall prepare a report setting out the provincial framework on hospice palliative care and shall lay the report before the Assembly within one year after the day on which this Act comes into force.~~

**Report to Assembly**

2 (1) The Minister of Health shall prepare a report setting out the provincial framework on palliative care and shall lay the report before the Assembly within one year after the day on which this Act comes into force.

**Publication**

(2) The Minister shall publish the report on a Government of Ontario website within 10 days after the day on which the report is tabled in the Assembly.

~~**Report re state of hospice palliative care in Ontario**~~

~~3 (1) Within five years after the day on which the report referred to in section 2 is tabled in the Assembly, the Minister of Health and Long Term Care shall prepare a report on the state of hospice palliative care in Ontario and shall cause the report to be laid before the Assembly on any of the first 15 days on which that Assembly is sitting after the report is completed.~~

**Report re state of palliative care in Ontario**

3 (1) Within three years after the day on which the report referred to in section 2 is tabled in the Assembly, the Minister of Health shall prepare a report on the state of palliative care in Ontario and shall cause the report to be laid before the Assembly on any of the first 15 days on which that Assembly is sitting after the report is completed.

**Publication**

(2) The Minister shall publish the report on a Government of Ontario website within 10 days after the day on which the report is tabled in the Assembly.

**Commencement**

**4 This Act comes into force on the day it receives Royal Assent.**

**Short title**

**5 The short title of this Act is the *Compassionate Care Act, 2020*.**