



Ontario

**Monique Taylor**  
MPP Hamilton Mountain

The Honourable Deb Matthews  
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hepburn Block  
80 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C4

January 31, 2012

Dear Minister,

On Wednesday, January 18, 2011, a report was presented to the Emergency and Community Services Committee of Hamilton City Council addressing a serious issue with respect to emergency services in Hamilton. The report identified the closure of the adult emergency room at McMaster University Medical Centre as one of the major reasons for slower ambulance service in Hamilton.

Paramedics in Hamilton responded to 72,180 calls in 2011, an increase of 5,003 calls over 2010.

Earlier reports stated that in the first two months of 2011, the number of times one or no ambulances were available to respond to emergencies (code zero) had more than quadrupled in the past 4 years. That trend continued throughout the year and by October Hamilton was experiencing a code zero, on average, once every two days.

Hamilton Emergency Services is stretched to the limit and patients are suffering as a result.

I am writing today to ask that you take action to deal with this situation by providing funding for an additional ambulance crew to be on call 12 hours a day to serve the people of Hamilton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monique Taylor".

Monique Taylor MPP  
Hamilton Mountain

CC: Bob Bratina, Mayor, City of Hamilton  
Rose Caterini, City Clerk, City of Hamilton

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