

Dear Hamilton Police Service Board,

As a Member of the Provincial Parliament, I would like to know if I can count on your support in helping to put an end to a problem that has plagued Ontario communities for years. That problem is gas and dash. In 2010, Ontario's police services recorded over 9200 thefts. Fast forward to 2019, and that number has skyrocketed to 37,000.

Jayesh Prajapati was slain in 2012, and his killer would not be found for another three years while he continued stealing gas and endangering lives. We can stop this from ever happening again once this bill becomes law.

Police data paints a picture of how costly these gas and dashes are. One police service reported spending \$600,000 a year on just over 2000 gas and dash investigations. If you extrapolate this to the 37,000 thefts that Ontario saw in 2019, these investigations may be to the tune of \$11.1 million per year. This is money alongside thousands of hours that could be spent elsewhere on community safety.

I am advocating for a mandatory system of fuel prepayment that will prevent gas and dash from ever being a problem again. It's an approach that British Columbia, Alberta, and many US states have adopted for years and have seen almost no cases since, and it's time for Ontario to catch up.

The Bill has passed the second reading and is one step closer to becoming law. We have received support from diversified groups such as Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, Ontario Convenience Stores Association, police services and, even municipalities.

So today, I request your organization for a letter of support to put Ontarians at the forefront of safety. Please send the letter to us [@deepak.anand@pc.ola.org](mailto:@deepak.anand@pc.ola.org) with a copy to your local MPP. The list of all MPPs with their Email addresses is attached.

I ask that you share this message with others that have a vested interest in the safety of Ontarians and our communities.

Let's work together in making the change we want to see.

I hope to hear back from you soon, and I look forward to continuing this relationship with your organization.

Thanks.

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