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5.8

**Monique Taylor, MPP**  
Hamilton Mountain

The Honourable Charles Sousa  
Minister of Finance  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Frost Building South  
7 Queen's Park Crescent  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

March 8, 2013

Dear Minister Sousa,

I am in receipt of a copy of a letter sent to you by Mayor Bratina of Hamilton. The letter informs you of a resolution passed by Hamilton City Council asking that the provincial government consider steps to address the situation currently faced by Hamilton's taxi owners and operators with respect to their insurance premiums.

In addition to the letter from Mayor Bratina, my colleague MPP Paul Miller, also raised the issue during Question Period last week. In your response, you said you would look into the matter.

Minister, this is an urgent matter that is affecting taxi drivers throughout Hamilton. Many of them simply can't afford the extortionate rates they are being asked to pay and are having to park their cars.

I am writing to you today in support of Hamilton City Council's call on the government to take steps to correct the situation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monique Taylor".

Monique Taylor, MPP  
Hamilton Mountain

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Miller".

Paul Miller, MPP  
Hamilton East – Stoney Creek

cc. Mayor R. Bratina



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF HAMILTON

February 28, 2013

The Honourable Charles Sousa  
Minister of Finance  
Frost Building South  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Queen's Park Crescent  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Y7

Dear Minister Sousa:

At its meeting of February 27, 2013, Hamilton City Council approved Item 9 of the Planning Committee Report 13-003, which reads as follows:

**9. Taxi Insurance Premiums (Item 9.2)**

WHEREAS taxi service is an important transportation option for many citizens in the City of Hamilton;

AND WHEREAS taxi fares are regulated by the City's Licensing By-law for reasons of consumer protection;

AND WHEREAS it has been reported that taxi insurance premiums are increasing by as much as 400%.

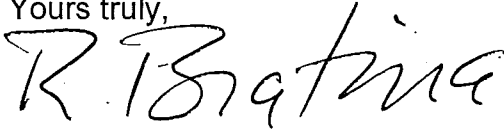
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That City Council supports Hamilton taxi owners and operators by asking the Provincial Government to review changes to Ontario's vehicle insurance system, which resulted in significant increases to taxi insurance premiums, and to consider legislation to correct the situation;
- (b) That a copy of the motion be forwarded to Hamilton's Local MPPs for their consideration and support; and,

- (c) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Finance and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Therefore, we respectfully request your timely consideration with respect to this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Bratina". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "B".

Mayor R. Bratina

Copied:

The Honourable Ted McMeekin, M.P.P. Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Aldershot

Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario, M.P.P. Hamilton Centre

Tim Hudak, M.P.P., Leader of the Conservative Party of Ontario, M.P.P. Niagara West-Glanbrook

Monique Taylor, M.P.P., Hamilton Mountain

Paul Miller, M.P.P., Hamilton East-Stoney Creek

Association of Municipalities of Ontario