



## Going To Speak Before The Law Amendments Committee on Bill 100 Call 902-424-8941

1. The Law Amendments Committee is made up of nine Members of the Legislature (MLAs) from each of the political parties represented in the Legislature (including Liberal, PC and NDP members). The current Chairperson is Lena Diab (the Minister of Justice).
2. Its job is to receive public input on all government Public Bills or legislation during each session of the Legislature after a Bill has gone through Second Reading or debate in the Legislature on the principle of that Bill.
3. **Anyone can appear before the Law Amendments Committee** to make a presentation on a Bill. It is not only for lawyers, so-called experts or even, just groups and organizations. Individuals are also welcome to speak to the Committee.
4. To appear before the Committee, you must call in advance and get on the list of possible presenters. To do so, you must contact the **Legislative Counsel Office at 902-424-8941 as soon as possible**, and ask to be put on the list of presenters for Bill 100.
5. It is possible that you will only receive 1-2 days' notice, and even less than a day's notice. **Each presenter is supposed to have 5-10 minutes. It is usually easier and more effective if you write down or type your key points on 1-2 pages, if you have time to do this.** After you make your comments or read your presentation, the Chairperson will ask if any Committee member will ask has any questions or comments for you.
6. If you feel that you don't have much to say to the Committee, remember that you are speaking as a NSGEU member who has experience working at a university, and you believe strongly that every worker across this province should have rights to organize and to bargain a collective agreement. The government or employers can't dictate when you can negotiate, go on strike, or file a grievance. **A short list of key speaking points is found on the back of this sheet**
7. **If you can't attend**, please send by fax a letter or written comments to the Legislative Counsel Office at 902-424-0547 (fax) or [legc.office@gov.ns.ca](mailto:legc.office@gov.ns.ca) (email).
8. For more information, please contact Ian Johnson (NSGEU Servicing Coordinator/Policy Analyst) at 902-424-4063 (in Halifax), or 1-877-556-7438 (toll-free). **Please let us know if you have been called to speak before the Committee and for what time.**

Prepared by NSGEU  
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**Possible Key Points to Make  
On Bill 100  
Before the Law Amendments Committee**

- Thanks for this opportunity to speak on Bill 100.
- My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I work as a \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ University. I have been working there for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
- I am very concerned about how this Bill could affect my rights as a unionized worker and member of NSGEU,
- I am especially concerned with Section 8 which could be put into effect if a university wants to enter into a revitalization process and if it determines it has a “significant operating deficit”. If these conditions are met, then my union cannot strike, we cannot conclude a new collective agreement, or any of our members cannot file or continue a grievance that may relate to a revitalization plan or a revitalization planning process.
- If I work at a university which may be the subject of a merger proposal under Section 13, then my university may give notice to the Minister to have Section 8 apply to that university, even if it does not have a “significant operating deficiency”.
- These types of provisions have been found by the Supreme Court of Canada to be unconstitutional and a violation of my basic rights under the Constitution, especially in recent Court decisions.
- I do not understand why the government chose to include them in this Bill. They were not recommended during the university consultation process. They seem to be part of the government’s agenda to undermine workers’ rights and collective bargaining rights.
- I have no problem with ensuring greater accountability from universities or in providing assistance when any one of them faces some major difficulties that may threaten its future. However, I see no reason why this situation has to be used as a pretext to threaten or undermine worker rights. How does this help to secure a stronger future for any university?
- I ask for your support to remove Section 8 and all references to it in this Bill.
- Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about this important issue to me and my members.