

Date:

Dear

**RE: Private Member's Bill C-225 (Cathay Wagantall, MP – Yorkton/Melville) "Protection of Pregnant Women and their Preborn Children Act" (Also known as "Cassie and Molly's Law."**

I am writing to you today concerning the private member's bill C-225 that was introduced by MP Cathay Wagantall on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016, entitled "The Protection of Pregnant Women and Their Preborn Children Act", also known as "Cassie and Molly's Law."

This new bill addresses an urgent requirement in Canada to protect pregnant women who are vulnerable and/or in vulnerable circumstances and whom are most often targeted with violence. This violence often results in death – of both the pregnant mother and her preborn child.

As a constituent in your riding, I unequivocally and without reservation, support this bill 100%. The Bill will protect pregnant women in all stages of pregnancy and will protect the preborn child, with the goal of deterring perpetrators and therefore preventing violence committed against them. The perpetrators will be held responsible for their actions with resulting consequences. The violent act will be charged under the Criminal Code. (Currently, there is no such provision, resulting in no recourse for a pregnant woman, or her family, should the violence result in the pregnant woman's and/or her preborn child's death.)

Bill C-225 is clear - precise in its wording and definition and must not be misconstrued as the completely separate, apart and divisive issue of abortion. It does not in any way shape, influence, involve, intrude on or take away a woman's choice. The newly minted offences introduced in this Bill are not stand-alone offences, they can only be applied when a criminal offence is being, or has been carried out against a pregnant woman and there is knowledge that the woman is pregnant. Such was the case of Cassandra and Molly Kaake-Durham and of Olivia and Lane Jr Talbot, victims of violence, resulting in their deaths. Sadly, these mothers are only two of many such victims.

My hope is that you will show your support of this life-saving Bill by a positive vote when the Bill is re-introduced in the House of Commons for its 2nd reading and progressive debates. This is an urgent issue which touches everyone – regardless of their political beliefs, or associations. We need to protect the vulnerable when the vulnerable require it most.

I would appreciate a response at your earliest convenience advising of your support. Alternatively, in the case of non-support, I'd appreciate the reasoning behind your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,