

# Ontario Legislature passes Bill 37, the Child Pornography Reporting Act

## December 4, 2008

The Ontario Legislature has passed Bill 37, the Child Pornography Reporting Act, 2008. All three parties supported the bill.

The penalty for not reporting child pornography to the entity to be designated by the regulations can be a fine up to \$50,000 and two years in jail.

MPP Laurel Broten singled out some important contributions that made this bill a reality:

I want to take a minute from the floor of the Legislature today to acknowledge those who have worked every single day across our province, across our country, to better protect children in Ontario. Paul Gillespie, who's the president of Kids' Internet Safety Alliance and a former Toronto police officer, has seen more horrific images than anyone can ever imagine, and Paul continues to be an important advocate on behalf of children. The Canadian Centre for Child Protection and their executive director, Lianna McDonald, have been very supportive of the proposed legislation and have helped bring it to fruition; the Canadian Centre for Abuse Awareness in Ontario, John Muise, the director of public safety, and Ellen Campbell, their president; Beyond Borders, Rosalind Prober and the great work that that organization is doing; the Gatehouse child abuse advocacy centre; the Ontario Provincial Police; the Toronto Police Service; the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, and in particular, their president, Chief Bill Blair.

Today, as we stand on the floor of the Legislature to debate this bill, we can know that Ontarians are with us in the importance placed by them on the protection of children. A Sun Media/Nanos Research poll from May 2008 found that 94% of Ontarians support the reporting of child pornography.

The full text of the bill, with amendments highlighted, is available here:

[www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills\\_detail.do?locale=en&BillID=1947](http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&BillID=1947)