



# NEWS RELEASE

**JERRY J. OUELLETTE**  
Member of Provincial Parliament  
**OSHAWA**

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## OUELLETTE RE-INTRODUCES BILL TO PROTECT CHILDREN PLAYING AMATEUR SPORTS

*Oshawa MPP brings legislation forward for third time as McGuinty government kills bill upon prorogation of Parliament*

**QUEEN'S PARK** –Today in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario Oshawa MPP Jerry Ouellette re-introduced a bill for the third time that would protect children while playing in organized amateur sports in the province of Ontario.

The bill requires coaches, referees, managers and officials to be subject to criminal background checks in order to participate in organized amateur sports with children under 18 years of age. Currently, there are no wide ranging provincial guidelines or regulations that require mandatory criminal background checks.

“I have always maintained that protecting our children from convicted offenders is a serious matter,” says Mr. Ouellette. “I feel it is important to continue to bring this legislation forward so that our children are protected to the best of our ability and feel secure when they are involved in valuable organized sports.”

Mr. Ouellette has introduced this bill twice before, but both times it died on the Order Paper when Premier McGuinty prorogued the session of Parliament. The most recent bill had passed Second Reading on May 14, 2009 and all members who spoke in the legislature offered praise and support in moving the bill forward.

“I even wrote to the Premier and Government House Leader, conveying the extraordinary support for this bill from sports organizations and parents across the province and requesting the bill be carried over to the current session of Parliament,” explains Ouellette. “I am quite disappointed the government did not choose to move the bill along the legislative process”.

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