## FTR Now

# Bill 168, The Occupational Health And Safety Amendment Act (Violence And Harassment In The Workplace) 2009, Carried At Second Reading

**Date:** October 21, 2009

On October 20, 2009, Bill 168, the Occupational Health and Safety Amendment Act (Violence and Harassment in the Workplace) 2009 was debated and carried at Second Reading. The Bill has been Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy by the Ontario Legislature.

As you may know, the Committee review process can take days, weeks or months, and is often difficult to predict. Subject to the Committee's schedule, your organization may wish to consider making oral or written submissions.

The Ontario Government introduced Bill 168 on April 20, 2009. If passed, the Bill would require employers to develop policies to address workplace violence and harassment and to assess the risk of violence in its workplace. The Bill also imposes a new duty on employers to address domestic violence in the workplace, requires procedures to summon immediate help if a violent incident occurs and requires that workers be alerted to a person who has a history of violence. For more information on Bill 168, please see the April 21, 2009 *FTR Now* "Ontario Government Introduces Workplace Violence Legislation".

For more information or details about the submissions process, please contact Meghan E. Ferguson (Toronto) at 416.864.7350, or your regular Hicks Morley lawyer.

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