

**From:** [PF-Mailbox-01](#)  
**To:** [Norio, Ann-Marie](#); [Spratt, Jenna](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee or Regional Council  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 5:51:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [Bill 21's violations of the human rights - Rofyda Bassiouny.pdf](#)

**From:** Niagara Region Website  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 June 2022 17:51:22 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Clerks  
**Subject:** Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee or Regional Council

## Request to Speak at a Standing Committee or Regional Council

To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address)

Name

ROFYDA BASSIOUNY

Address

[REDACTED]

City

NIAGARA FALLS

Postal

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

standing committee

Regional Council

Presentation Topic

Bill 21's violations of the human rights

Presentation includes slides

No

Previously presented topic

No

Presentation Details

I would like to have from 10-15 minutes to present my talk. Tomorrow Jun 23, 2022.

Video Consent

Yes

Support\_File\_1

Bill 21's violations of the human rights - Rofyda Bassiouny.pdf



Rofyda Bassiouny

June 23rd, 2022

### Bill 21's violations of the human rights

Quebec has been enriched by the diversity and historic contribution of the first nations and the Inuit, and by the English-speaking Quebecers.

Quebec claims that its Federation has made it possible for cohabitation based on solidarity, cooperation and respect for diversity, according to the policy on Quebec affirmation and Canadian relations. Although it is claimed that they respect diversity their actions do not align.

Bill 21 is claimed to be an act perceiving the laicity according to the act. The parliament of Quebec enacted it on June 16, 2019. "The state's lacity should be affirmed in a manner that ensures a balance between the collective rights of the Quebec nation and human rights and freedoms."

Yet, there are many human rights violations when it comes to bill 21. Article 23 of the UDHR code states that everyone has the right to work to free choice of employment, to just in favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment"

Bill 21 does not respect or observe article 23 considering the number of teachers who were fired for wearing a hijab or a turban or other religious symbols which they are obligated to wear.

Article 18 also states that " everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or beliefs. And freedom either alone or in community with others in public or private to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance"

Bill 21 does not only prohibit religious symbols but it also gives the authority to employers to fire their employees because of their religious symbols.

Bill 21 is not logical considering Quebec views itself diverse and at the same time, it wants to protect its lacity. Wearing a religious symbol is not the same as teaching or forcing someone into a religion.

This act targets primarily religion with a majority of people of color. Religious symbols like the cross, hijab or Turban. The only religious symbol that is not obligatory is the cross. Hijab, or a turban or others, is mandatory in some religions. This act is technically telling individuals to either take off their hijab or Turban to work the job they are passionate about, or else they get fired or are forced to choose a different career or passion.

Rofyda Bassiouny

June 23rd, 2022

A human being should not consider having to choose between their religion or work. If an individual is passionate and very talented in a field, religious clothing should never be an obstacle to achieving their goal. Individuals shall not be fired or kept away from a job they are good at just because of their religion. Bill 21, instead of making people focus on others' talents in their job field, makes the majority focus on what these people are wearing which clearly does not align with the thoughts of diversity since it wasn't respected in the first place.

As a person who wears the hijab and will grow up wearing it, I find Bill 21 very unreasonable and unfair. I am very passionate about becoming a lawyer and I know how to get there and the amount of effort it will take, considering such circumstances, it is not easy to become a lawyer.

If someone passes such difficult tests, courses and the BAR itself, how could anyone tell them they are not obligated to work because of their religious clothing? This should never be acceptable in Canada as a whole and something shall be done to regard such a discriminative act.