

May 29, 2023

VIA: Electronic Mail (Patrick.Brazeau@sen.parl.gc.ca)

Sen. Hon. Patrick Brazeau
the Senate of Canada
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Brazeau:

RE: Support for Bill S-254, An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act (warning label on alcoholic beverages)

The Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington (KFL&A) Board of Health is writing to express support for Bill S-254, An Act to Amend the Food and Drugs Act (warning label on alcoholic beverages). Mandated labels showing standard drink information, alcohol health guidance, and the link between alcohol and cancer will better inform consumers and support lower-risk alcohol use.

Bill S-254 aligns with the recent call for warning labels from the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction as part of the new [Canadian Guidance on Alcohol and Health](#) which recommends mandatory labelling of all alcoholic beverages with health warnings and Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health. This recommendation comes from leading scientific experts in the field and is supported by [Evidence-based Recommendations for Labelling Alcohol Products in Canada](#) and [Enhanced Alcohol Container Labels: A Systematic Review](#).

We know that many Canadians are unaware of the health risks associated with alcohol consumption and that the majority of Canadians support warning labels or health messages to increase awareness. We also know the important role that warning labels have played in tobacco control in Canada.

The KFL&A Board of Health believes that alcohol warning labels are an important component of a comprehensive alcohol strategy aimed at reducing the health and social harms of alcohol use in Canada. We urge fellow Senators to join you in calling on the Government of Canada to require, through legislation, mandatory labelling of all alcoholic beverages that includes the number of standard drinks in a container, the Guidance on Alcohol and Health, health warnings, and nutrition information.

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The Senate plays a key role in introducing legislation to serve the best interests of Canadians and we urge fellow Senators to join you in calling on the Government of Canada to stop keeping Canadians in the dark about the risks of alcohol by supporting Bill S-254.

Sincerely,



Wess Garrod, Chair
KFL&A Board of Health

Copy to: Sen. Hon. Donald Neil Plett, Leader of the Opposition
Sen. Hon. Raymonde Saint-Germain, Facilitator of the Independent Senators Group
Sen. Hon. Scott Tannas, Leader of the Canadian Senators Group
Sen. Hon. Jane Cordy, Leader of the Progressive Senate Group
Sen. Hon. Marc Gold, Government Representative in the Senate
Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, Federal Minister of Health
Hon. Carolyn Bennett, Federal Minister of Mental Health & Addictions
Mark Gerretsen, MP, Kingston and the Islands
Shelby Kramp-Neuman, MP, Hastings – Lennox and Addington
Scott Reid, MP, Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston
Ric Bresee, MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington
Ted Hsu, MPP, Kingston and the Islands
John Jordan, MPP, Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health