<Your Name>

<Your Address>

<City, Province, Postal Code>

<Date of Letter>

<Name of Recipient

<Title of Recipient>

<Address>

<City, Province, Postal Code>

Dear <Name of Recipient>,

I am writing you as I am concerned by recent moves taken by the provincial government and the Ministry of Labour that will harm independent contractors in Ontario.

This issue affects me directly – I started an independent contracting business **<Insert number of years>** years ago. I decided to go independent because I wanted more control of my career, I could earn more money working for myself, and it gave me the flexibility to choose contracts based on my interests.

Being an independent contractor has been great, but I am concerned about the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017 (Bill 148) and how it will place independent contractors such as myself at risk of being wrongfully categorized as employees. Although I believe that the current framework for assessing misclassification is severely outdated, the government has declined this opportunity for proposing a clear and fair framework for the many small businesses and independent contractors seeking to build a business. An undesired employee classification is a severe event that will disrupt my livelihood and have significantly negative effects on the planning I have organized around my business.

I strongly believe that the standard of reverse onus that Bill 148 introduces is bad policy – it is bad for independent contractors and it is bad for the Canadian economy. Highly-skilled independent contractors are a cornerstone of the technology sector and help businesses in Ontario stay current and competitive. Taking steps to interfere with their ability to engage clients will not only restrict their opportunities but hurts the economy as a whole.

It is 2017, and it is time to recognize the career choices that independent contractors like myself have made and the role contractors play in the economy. Being independent is important to me and I am joining with the Association of Professional Canadian Consultants to ask the Ontario Government to reconsider its proposals.

Sincerely,

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