

Bill 1

The Protest Protection Act

WHEREAS “One of the key priorities of government is to protect its citizens' security...”¹ and

WHEREAS “Police were forced to use tear gas for the first time in the history of Toronto. They also needed to use rubber bullets and pepper spray. In the end, these criminals caused \$2.5 million in damages. Nearly 100 police officers and about 40 private citizens were injured”;² and

WHEREAS “taxpayers are in for a hefty bill—now estimated to be in the millions of dollars—to pay for police overtime, and the tourism industry is fretting that the images of violence making their way into a growing number of international media”.³

THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, BY AND WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF MANITOBA, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) As of January 1, 2013, the Government of Canada shall establish **COPS [Canada's Organized Protection System]**, responsible for regulating all protests and rallies in Canada to ensure they are conducted safely and do not halt everyday activities.
 - a) A Protest is defined as a gathering of people expressing objection against one or more ideas or actions
 - b) A Rally is defined as a gathering of people in support of one or more ideas or actions
- 2) Any person or group wishing to hold a protest or rally of greater than 25 people must contact a designated **COPS** official to inform them when the protest or rally will take place, the general desired location, and the prospected number of attendees
 - a) All participants will be required to pay \$10 and will be issued a wristband with a corresponding number to ensure regulations are met.
 - i) **COPS** officials may waive the \$10 fee at their discretion
 - b) All wristbands will have a strict three-day limit.
 - i) Additional wristbands may be purchased after the three-day period if more time is desired.
 - c) Protests must not be located on any private property and must not obstruct direct access to any private or government offices during business hours.
- 3) **COPS** will be responsible for supervising, controlling and protecting all participants of the demonstration.
 - a) Protection level will be proportional to the size of demonstration.

¹ Michelle Rempel, Parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Environment speaking in regards to bill C-309; <http://openparliament.ca/bills/41-1/C-309/> October 29, 2012

² Blake Richards, Member of Parliament representing Wild Rose, AB speaking in regards to bill C-309; <http://openparliament.ca/bills/41-1/C-309/> October 29, 2012

³ Maclean's: “Quebec Standoff Already Has A Clear Loser: Taxpayers” <http://www2.macleans.ca/2012/05/24/the-quebec-standoff-already-has-a-clear-loser-taxpayers/#more-260782> May 24, 2012

- b) All participants will be subject to search to ensure there are no weapons or dangerous objects at **COPS** supervised protests and rallies
 - c) Any persons posing a threat during the demonstration will be removed by **COPS** and detained for 48 hours.
- 4) Any person participating in a protest or rally of 25 or more people without **COPS** supervision will be subject to arrest or dispersal.