

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in response to the proposed new Online Safety Bill that aims to protect individuals from harmful content and online abuse.

I am a Sex Worker and have been using online platforms to advertise and to connect with colleagues.

This bill will endanger the ability for SWs to advertise or exist openly in online spaces, forcing workers into more dangerous working situations (ie. in person work), especially during the pandemic. Further, there is well documented evidence of high levels of violence against in person sex workers.

This bill also seems to ignore the right for consenting adults to engage in sexually explicit activities over the internet. Explicit material should not be considered equivalent to violent and harmful content.

The E-commissioner is not required to consider privacy consequences or undertake consultation on the appropriate system of complaints or education about parties this bill will affect, and there is no transparency or accountability for decisions made under the Bill.

I would like to see these issues addressed in the final form of the Bill that may get passed. I would also like a reassessment included in this bill that allows community input once more after a trial period of this bill being implemented.

[REDACTED]