

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (2)

DATE: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

**TITLE: SUPPORTING BILL 21 – FIXING LONG-TERM CARE
AMENDMENT ACT (TILL DEATH DO US PART)**

FROM:

Mayor Steven Del Duca

Whereas the City of Vaughan is committed to creating a community where all residents can be active and engaged members of society at every stage of life; and

Whereas age-friendly communities support aging with dignity, respect, and independence, and promote the inclusion of older adults in all areas of community life; and

Whereas the City of Vaughan is committed to ensure fair, inclusive, and respectful treatment of all residents; and

Whereas seniors deserve dignity in care and should have the right to live with their partner as they age; and

Whereas, within the Province of Ontario, long-term care homes do not allow spouses to stay together unless both spouses need care; and

Whereas the separation of spouses, once one or both of them enter(s) a long-term care home is a common phenomenon across Ontario; and

Whereas Bill 21: *Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part)*, 2022 amends the Residents' Bill of Rights set out in section 3 of the *Fixing Long-Term Care Act*, 2021 by adding the right of residents not to be separated from their spouse upon admission, but to have accommodation made available for both spouses, so that they may continue to live together; and

Whereas Bill 21 passed its second reading in the provincial legislature on November 15, 2022, and was subsequently referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That, the City of Vaughan supports Bill 21: *Fixing Long-Term Care Amendment Act (Till Death Do Us Part)*, 2022;
2. That, the City of Vaughan encourages the Government of Ontario and all members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to support Bill 21, to ensure that residents of long-term care homes do not get separated from their spouse upon admission, rather can find accommodation for both spouses, so that they may continue to live together; and
3. That, the City Clerk be directed to send a copy of this motion to the Region of York, Province of Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, and all Members of Provincial Parliament.

Financial and Staff Resource Impact

N/A

Attachments:

N/A