EI BENEFITS FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL









ELIZABETH MAY

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR SAANICH-GULF ISLANDS LEADER OF THE GREEN PARTY OF CANADA

PETITION GUIDELINES

- 1. Petitions must not be altered or have any text added.
- 2. Petitions can be either double-sided, or have a blank back page.
- 3. A petition should contain signatures of residents of Canada only.
- 4. There is no minimum age requirement for anyone signing a petition.
- 5. Each petitioner must sign, not print, their name directly on the petition.
- 6. If a petitioner cannot sign because of illness or a disability, this must be noted on the petition and the note signed by a witness. Aside from this exception, you can only sign for yourself.
- 7. A petition must contain original signatures written directly on the document and not pasted, taped, photocopied or otherwise transferred to it.
- 8. No photocopies, scans, e-mails etc. as petitions are only admissible in hardcopy.

Please return all original signed petitions, postage free, to:

Elizabeth May, M.P.
518 Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Please email elizabeth.may@parl.gc.ca or call 613-996-1119 if you have any questions.

PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED EI BENEFITS FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL

We, the undersigned, citizens of Canada draw the attention of the House to the following:

THAT, WHEREAS the treatment for critical illnesses such as cancer often takes longer than 15 weeks, and the current level of Employment Insurance (EI) Sickness Benefits of 15 weeks for eligible claimants is wholly insufficient;

WHEREAS a cancer treatment regimen involving multiple rounds of chemotherapy, radiation and surgery can span upwards of a year, and the Canadian Cancer Action Network noted in a recent report that two thirds of cancer survivors in a study were away from work for 16 weeks or more during treatment and the average gap without El coverage was 23 weeks;

WHEREAS without Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits for support in such situations, Canadians are forced to suffer significant financial hardship at a time when they are already under extreme stress battling cancer or other critical illnesses;

WHEREAS nearly half of Canadians will develop cancer in their lifetime and 62% are expected to survive for 5 years or more, Canadians should not have to go into debt or become dependent on welfare because of a cancer diagnosis;

WHEREAS Canada offers less support than many other countries, such as the UK, with 52 weeks, and Germany, with 78 weeks;

THEREFORE, YOUR PETITIONERS call on the House of Commons to support Canadians battling cancer and other critical illnesses by immediately enacting legislation to extend Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits for up to 52 weeks during Canadians' times of need.

Signature	Full Address with City and Province	Email
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THEREFORE, YOUR PETITIONERS call on the House of Commons to support Canadians battling cancer and other critical illnesses by immediately enacting legislation to extend Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits for up to 52 weeks during Canadians' times of need.

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