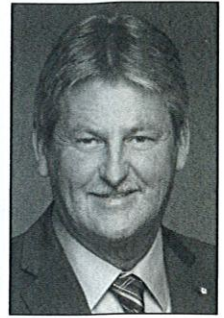




HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Scott Duvall

Member of Parliament / Député
Hamilton Mountain



December 8, 2016

The Honourable William Francis Morneau
Minister of Finance
Department of Finance Canada
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5

Dear Minister Morneau,

I am writing today to ask you to make clear your position on fixing the problem with proposed enhancements to the Canada Pension Plan which your government has created through Bill C-26.

The failure to replicate existing drop out provisions for child rearing and for people who have received CPP disability benefits will result in parents – particularly women – and people living with disabilities receiving lower benefits than they would if this important equity provisions were included in C-26.

After the NDP repeatedly raised concerns about this omission and proposed amendments to fix the legislation, your Parliamentary Secretary Francois-Philippe Champagne told the House of Commons that you will raise the issue at upcoming meetings with provincial and territorial finance Ministers this month. Your spokesperson, Daniel Lauzon, admitted that “we’re aware that more could be done with respect to drop-out provisions for disability and child rearing to make sure that this expansion is inclusive as possible” and repeated that you will bring up the omission with provincial counterparts.

But Canadians have still not heard any commitment from you.

Nor have Canadians been given any details about what precisely you aim to propose. A promise to “raise the issue” – delivered by surrogates – is a long way from presenting a concrete position. Canadians deserve to know if you are, in fact, committed to fixing the omission of the drop out provisions from Bill -26 that will adversely affect the lives of women and those living with disabilities.

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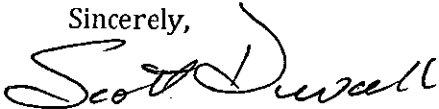
I call on you to clearly articulate to Canadians, ahead of the upcoming meetings, your commitment to fix the flaw in the CPP enhancement. Will you push for inclusion of the full drop out provisions which your government left out of Bill C-26? Will you push for an agreement to immediately produce and pass legislation to fix the omissions? .

Your failure to include the important equity drop outs in the initial agreement is deeply disappointing. Fixing the problem now, while the opportunity is immediately before you, is now critical.

I ask you to give Canadians a clear and unambiguous statement of your intention and determination to fix the flaw in the legislation at the upcoming meeting with your provincial counterparts. The well-being of millions Canadian workers depends on your actions and commitment.

Canadians deserve to know their government is there to protect them and that their Finance Minister has the courage to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott Duvall". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Scott Duvall