To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the December 17, 2019 City Council meeting on item 2019.MM13.11, Asking the Province to maintain the definition of disability for recipients of the Ontario Disability Support Program - by Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Paul Ainslie

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

CMHA Toronto supports the motion to ask Mayor Tory to request the provincial government not to change the definition of ODSP disability. Changing the definition will reduce the shelter allowance available to people struggling with mental health and addiction issues and likely increase homelessness rather than reducing it. The focus should actually be raising ODSP rates which are currently 45% of the LICO.

Steve
Steve Lurie C.M., Executive Director, Canadian Mental Health Association Toronto Branch
Adjunct Professor FISW, University of Toronto
700 Lawrence Ave West # 480
Toronto ON M6A 3B4
416-789-6886
Email: slurie@cmhato.org
Web: www.toronto.cmha.ca