

Bill C269: Clean up our Waterways

The practice of dumping raw sewage into waterways is archaic and should not be acceptable in civilized countries, including Canada. Why do we continue to allow this? Learn about bill C269 and how it should help clean up the problem.

What is Bill C269?

Bill C269 was created to amend the Fisheries Act to prohibit dumping raw sewage into waterways that fish live in. That includes just about every waterway in Canada. This should be a “no brainer” in government proceedings.

Reviewed in February of this year, bill C269 was introduced by the conservative government to amend the current Fisheries Act due to the current and increasingly popular practice of dumping raw sewage into our waterways. Word of mouth is that the current Liberal government plans to vote the amendment down. Why? Most likely because it was introduced by the Conservatives.

Changes to the Fisheries Act

2019:





2021 Proposal for Bill C269

Current Wording:

deleterious substance means

- (a) any substance that, if added to any water, would degrade or alter or form part of a process of degradation or alteration of the quality of that water so that it is rendered or is likely to be rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat or to the use by man of fish that frequent that water, or
- (b) any water that contains a substance in such quantity or concentration, or that has been so treated, processed or changed, by heat or other means, from a natural state that it would, if added to any other water, degrade or alter or form part of a process of degradation or alteration of the quality of that water so that it is rendered or is likely to be rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat or to the use by man of fish that frequent that water,

and without limiting the generality of the foregoing includes

- (c) any substance or class of substances prescribed pursuant to paragraph (2)(a),
- (d) any water that contains any substance or class of substances in a quantity or concentration that is equal to or in excess of a quantity or concentration

prescribed in respect of that substance or class of substances pursuant to paragraph (2)(b), and

- **(e)** any water that has been subjected to a treatment, process or change prescribed pursuant to paragraph (2)(c); (*substance nocive*)

Proposed Wording: within the definition ***deleterious substance*** after paragraph (b) and before paragraph (c) should be replaced with the the following:

“and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, **does not include raw sewage**, but includes”

and the definition of raw sewage as follows:

raw sewage means sewage that has not yet been processed or treated to separate and remove contaminants, and includes:

(a) used water from sanitary appliances that contains human fecal matter or human urine,

(b) used water, other than the type of water described in paragraph (a), from sanitary appliances or from other appliances in a kitchen or laundry,

and **(c)** surface runoff and stormwater that is mixed with the type of water described in (a)

What You Can Do:

Contact your Liberal MP to tell them to vote YES on bill C269 to amend the Fisheries Act. Don't let this critical detail slip through the bureaucratic cracks. Fix the obvious; the act should have been amended years ago to define and prohibit the dumping of raw sewage into our waterways!

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