

NEWS RELEASE

SYLVIA JONES, MPP *Dufferin-Caledon*

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MPP Jones Votes Against the Harmonized Sales Tax

(Queen's Park) – Progressive Conservative MPP Sylvia Jones (Dufferin-Caledon) today voted against the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) as the McGuinty Liberals used their majority to raise taxes for Ontario families.

The Harmonized Sales Tax is a blending of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to a single 13% HST; meaning items that previously were not subject to the PST will now have the HST applied. The McGuinty Liberals passed the HST bill this morning, and as of Canada Day 2010, Ontarians can be prepared to pay more for everything from gas to the internet to funerals.

“I have heard from many people who have been concerned about the impact this tax will have on families, seniors, and others on fixed incomes,” said Jones. “The HST is the largest tax grab in Ontario's history, and will force people to pay more for necessities such as gas, hydro, and home heating fuel.”

The McGuinty Liberals have locked Ontario into this 13% combined tax until 2015.

“Plain and simple this is the wrong tax at the wrong time,” said Jones. “The Progressive Conservative Party and our Leader Tim Hudak made it top priority to protect Ontarians from this tax but Premier McGuinty ignored the voices of Ontario families and forced it through anyway.”

“I want to thank everyone who took the time to sign my petition opposing the HST,” said Jones. “Although we could not get Premier McGuinty to back down on this ill-timed, ill-advised tax grab, it was the opposition of Ontario families that forced McGuinty to back down and allow certain exemptions, for example newspapers and meals under \$4.00.”

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Sylvia Jones MPP, Working for You