



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-02271**

BY: **MR. COOPER (ST. ALBERT-EDMONTON)**

DATE: **APRIL 26, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **HONOURABLE JODY WILSON-RAYBOULD**

Response by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Impaired driving

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

The Government is committed to combatting impaired driving and has proposed significant reforms in Bill C-46, *An Act to amend the Criminal Code (offences relating to conveyances) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*. The Bill proposes to create new drug-impaired driving offences, provide new tools and powers for police to investigate both drug and alcohol-impaired driving, and simplify the prosecution of offenders.

Bill C-46 proposes some higher maximum penalties for transportation offences, including by raising the maximum penalty for impaired driving where no one was hurt or killed from 5 years imprisonment to 10 years imprisonment, and raising the maximum penalty for offences causing bodily harm from 10 years imprisonment to 14 years imprisonment. Additionally, the Bill proposes that all transportation offences causing a death be punishable by a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. Bill C-46 signals to the courts that sentences for impaired driving should reflect the seriousness of the offence.

The Government expects that the courts will fashion appropriate penalties within the broad range that is set out in Bill C-46. The Government notes that sentences for impaired driving causing death have been increasing, for example, a first offender who had caused multiple deaths was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment (*R v Muzzo*, 2016).