

THE HONOURABLE KIM PATE  
SENATOR FOR ONTARIO  
ALGONQUIN ANISHINABE AKI  
HOMELAND OF THE ALGONQUIN ANISHINABEG NATION



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## *News Release*

### Tona's Law: Hope for Correctional Accountability

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

OTTAWA, DECEMBER 6, 2024— On December 10, 2024, at 5:30 pm EST, the Senate will vote on [Tona's Law, Bill S-230](#). Tona's Law puts forward crucial safeguards of human rights and attempts to stem the injustices perpetrated against those most marginalized and too often victimized within the criminal legal and prison systems: Indigenous and Black prisoners and those with disabling mental health issues.

These measures were previously endorsed by the Senate as [amendments to Bill C-83](#) and in the [Senate Human Rights Committee's report](#) on the human rights of federally sentenced persons, furthering the Black Justice Strategy and the much-anticipated Indigenous Justice Strategy. Recent erosion of even the limited oversight mechanisms for federal prisons introduced by the government in 2019 via Bill C-83 underscores the urgency of passing Bill S-230.

“How fitting that we will vote on this bill on International Human Rights Day,” said Senator Kim Pate, sponsor of Tona's Law. “Tona is a survivor of more than ten years of solitary confinement and the stark and irreversible health consequences of isolation. Before she succumbs to terminal cancer, Tona hopes to see legal measures that might prevent what happened to her from happening to anyone else.”

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