

THE HONOURABLE KIM PATE
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News Release

Tona's Law Call to Eliminate Solitary Confinement Advances to Committee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025—Last night, the Senate voted to send [Tona's Law, Bill S-205](#), onward to committee study, a continuation of nearly a decade of work on the human rights of federal prisoners in the Senate.

Tona's Law consists of safeguards tirelessly advocated by Tona Mills, an Indigenous woman and survivor of more than 10 years in solitary confinement and of the stark and irreversible mental 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.

The Senate has already endorsed the measures contained in Tona's Law three times before. Most recently, last December, the Senate passed the bill and sent it to the House of Commons, where further study was pre-empted by the last federal election.

While the government promised to eliminate solitary confinement in federal prisons in 2019, as underscored by [its own data](#), these inhumane conditions of isolation continue, disproportionately affecting Indigenous Peoples, Black Canadians, and persons with disabilities.

"I look forward to continuing to work with my Senate colleagues on these vital measures to uphold human and *Charter* rights," said Senator Kim Pate. "Tona is unwaveringly and courageously calling us to action, in the name of Canadians languishing in isolation and for whom every day counts."

- 30 -

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