

# Ontario OHS Reform Compliance Centre

**What You Need To Know Now**

**Bill 160 Passed**

On May 18, the Assembly passed **Bill 160** by a vote of 79-0. Officially named the *Occupational Health and Safety Statute Law Amendment Act, 2011*, most of the bill will take effect when it gets Royal Assent. Here's an overview of the key sections of the new law, including which ones directly affect employers, and what the next steps are in the Ontario reform process.

**What the Law Means for You Now**


In general, the new law is essentially what's often described as an "enabling statute"—that is, it simply enables or gives powers to an agency, government official, etc. to take certain actions. Thus, the main thrust of the law is to create the positions of Chief Prevention Officer (CPO) and the Prevention Council and give them and the MOL the power to do certain things regarding workplace safety, such as develop an OHS strategy for the province and set training standards (I'll discuss these powers more below).

But there are two sections in the new law that will have a direct and more immediate impact on employers


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**Bill 160**  
An Act to amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997 with respect to

**Time Saving Tools**

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Enables you to systematically capture the information you need to



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