The Honourable Charles Sousa  
Minister of Finance  
7th Floor, Frost Building South  
7 Queen’s Park Crescent  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7  

March 8, 2013  

Dear Minister Sousa,  

I am in receipt of a copy of a letter sent to you by Mayor Bratina of Hamilton. The letter informs you of a resolution passed by Hamilton City Council asking that the provincial government consider steps to address the situation currently faced by Hamilton’s taxi owners and operators with respect to their insurance premiums.

In addition to the letter from Mayor Bratina, my colleague MPP Paul Miller, also raised the issue during Question Period last week. In your response, you said you would look into the matter.

Minister, this is an urgent matter that is affecting taxi drivers throughout Hamilton. Many of them simply can’t afford the extortionate rates they are being asked to pay and are having to park their cars.

I am writing to you today in support of Hamilton City Council’s call on the government to take steps to correct the situation.

Sincerely  

Monique Taylor, MPP  
Hamilton Mountain  

Paul Miller, MPP  
Hamilton East – Stoney Creek  

cc. Mayor R. Bratina
February 28, 2013

The Honourable Charles Sousa
Minister of Finance
Frost Building South
7th Floor
Queen’s Park Crescent
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Y7

Dear Minister Sousa:

At its meeting of February 27, 2013, Hamilton City Council approved Item 9 of the Planning Committee Report 13-003, which reads as follows:

9. Taxi Insurance Premiums (Item 9.2)

WHEREAS taxi service is an important transportation option for many citizens in the City of Hamilton;

AND WHEREAS taxi fares are regulated by the City’s Licensing By-law for reasons of consumer protection;

AND WHEREAS it has been reported that taxi insurance premiums are increasing by as much as 400%.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That City Council supports Hamilton taxi owners and operators by asking the Provincial Government to review changes to Ontario’s vehicle insurance system, which resulted in significant increases to taxi insurance premiums, and to consider legislation to correct the situation;

(b) That a copy of the motion be forwarded to Hamilton’s Local MPPs for their consideration and support; and,
(c) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Finance and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Therefore, we respectfully request your timely consideration with respect to this matter.

Yours truly,

Mayor R. Bratina

Copied:
The Honourable Ted McMeekin, M.P.P. Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Aldershot
Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario, M.P.P Hamilton Centre
Monique Taylor, M.P.P., Hamilton Mountain
Paul Miller, M.P.P., Hamilton East-Stoney Creek
Association of Municipalities of Ontario