Ensure that low-income Ontarians have access to justice

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:
WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has cut the funding for Legal Aid Ontario by almost one third;
WHEREAS provincial funding for the immigration and refugee law program at Legal Aid Ontario has been completely cut;
WHEREAS access to Legal Aid is essential to low-income Ontarians who are facing legal proceedings such as in immigration, criminal, family, mental health, poverty law and child protection cases;
WHEREAS vulnerable populations like refugees will be left to represent themselves in a complex and already overburdened legal system, where a negative decision leads to deportation to countries where lives may be at risk;
WHEREAS the cuts will lead to backlogs and delays throughout the justice system, causing chaos in the courts and costing taxpayers more, not less;
WE THE UNDERSIGNED petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to: reverse the cuts to Legal Aid Ontario that have already begun to impact the most vulnerable people in Ontario, including immigrants and refugees.

Name (printed)	Address	City	Postal Code	Email	Signature

Return ORIGINAL COPIES of this petition to: 1558 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON, M6P 1A4