The Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS) is deeply disappointed in the passing of Bill 47 this week. APUS represents over 6000 students at the University of Toronto, many of whom are also workers. Student-workers will now continue to deal with job precarity and a lack of workplace protections.

It is not uncommon for many of us as student-workers to balance multiple jobs, which are often minimum wage, part-time or temporary contracts. Removing requirements such as two paid sick days, equal pay for equal work and fair notification of schedule changes has a direct impact on student workers. In addition to freezing the minimum wage, Bill 47 also requires workers to once again provide doctors’ notes despite the costly burden on the health-care system, removes newly included protections for temporary workers and reduces fines for employers who break the law. We are concerned about the repercussions these changes will have on our futures.

Students should not be expected to wait until 2025 for a $15 minimum wage or stronger workplace protections at the expense of our ability to survive.

The Fight for $15 and Fairness must continue, and for those who want to get involved, you can sign up here to volunteer with $15 and Fairness.

In Solidarity,

The Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students