



Liz Sandals, M.P.P.

Guelph

MPP SEEKS TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY

Liz Sandals Introduces Private Member's Legislation for Aftermarket Brake Pads

NEWS

May 12, 2009

QUEEN'S PARK — Liz Sandals, MPP Guelph, tabled a Private Member's Bill today seeking to implement minimum standards for aftermarket brake pads. Ontario drivers should be confident that all replacement brake pads purchased in Ontario meet recognized safety standards.

The bill, should it pass, will require that cars equipped with aftermarket brake pads meet specified safety standards, which will be outlined in regulation. Currently, the only standards in place apply exclusively to the original equipment on a new car.

The bill would also require that aftermarket brake pads not contain asbestos. Asbestos is not required to manufacture brake pads and is not used by Ontario manufacturers, but is still used in other jurisdictions. This jeopardizes the health and safety of mechanics and those who dispose of used brake pads.

QUOTES

"The brake pads manufactured in Ontario are safe, but not all brake pads currently sold in Ontario are necessarily safe," said Liz Sandals, MPP for Guelph. "My Private Member's Bill seeks to ensure that Ontario drivers have safe and reliable brake pads."

"This is a good first step and I want to thank MPP Sandals for taking the initiative and showing leadership on this important public safety issue," said Rick Jamieson, CEO of ABS Friction Corp. "Our industry is proud of our commitment to high standards that ensure the safety of Ontario drivers and our employees. This commitment is why we developed our own industry standards. We look forward to working with the government after this bill passes to develop strong regulations that match our industry's standards and provide real protection to Ontario drivers and to the production workers who manufacture and mechanics who install after market brake pads. Ontario roads will be safer with this legislation."

QUICK FACTS

- All Canadian aftermarket brake pad manufacturers currently meet voluntary industry standards that would be prescribed in regulation. For example, brake pads which meet the voluntary AMECA (Automotive Manufacturers Equipment Compliance Agency) standard have registered edge-code markings.
- No Ontario aftermarket brake pad manufacturer uses asbestos in the manufacturing of their product.

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