

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 22

THIRD SESSION, THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYERS 1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mrs. TAILLIEU – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Minister of Transportation and Government Services consider paving Highway 200 between Highways 205 and 305 to ensure a smooth, safe and uninterrupted use of Highway 200. (R. Saurette, R. Krahn, A. Toews and others)

Mrs. ROWAT – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Premier to consider ensuring that acute care and emergency services are available to the residents of Rivers and surrounding areas in their local hospital and to live up to his promise to not close the Rivers Hospital and to request that the Minister of Health consider developing a long term solution to the chronic shortages of frontline healthcare professionals in rural Manitoba. (R. Gamper, B. Gamper, S. Runions and others)

Mr. LAMOUREUX – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to consider recognizing the need to sit for a minimum of 80 days in any given calendar year. (R. San Juan, A. Cabrera, R. Tiodin and others)

Mr. Cullen – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to strongly urge the Minister of Health to consider taking charge and ensuring that he will improve long-term planning efforts to develop a lasting solution to the chronic problem of pediatrician and other specialist shortages in Brandon and to treat this as the crisis that it is and consider consulting with front-line workers, particularly doctors, to find solutions and to strongly urge the Minister of Health and the Premier of Manitoba to consider ending highway medicine now. (A. Smith, D. Knight, G. Sliziak and others)

Mr. SCHULER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Provincial Government to consider providing East St. Paul with local ambulance service which would service both East and West St. Paul and to consider improving the way that ambulance service is supplied to all Manitoba's by utilizing technologies such as GPS in conjunction with a Medical Transportation Co-ordination Center (MTCC) which will ensure that patients receive the nearest ambulance in the least amount of time and to consider ensuring that appropriate funding is provided to maintain superior response times and sustainable services. (R. Sawatzky, A. Sawatzky, K. Sawatzky and others)

Mr. GOERTZEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Minister of Family Services and Housing consider changes to the departmental policy that pays family members a reduced amount of money for room and board when they care for their special-needs dependants at home versus the amount paid to a non-parental care provider outside the family home and to consider examining on a case-by-case basis the merits of paying family members to care for special-needs dependants at home versus paying to institutionalize them. (R. Reimer, K. Klassen, S. Becenko and others)

On motion of Hon. Ms. ALLAN, Bill (No. 23) – The Workplace Safety and Health Amendment Act (Needles in Medical Workplaces)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la sécurité et l'hygiène du travail (aiguilles utilisées en milieu médical), was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker made the following ruling:

During Members' Statements on December 2, 2004, the Honourable Member for Carman rose on a point of order regarding comments spoken by the Honourable Member for Inkster in speaking to a point of order that had just been raised previously. The Honourable Member for Carman asserted that the comments spoken by the Honourable Member for Inkster amounted to what could be viewed as a bribe towards a particular minister of the executive counsel in order to extract a favour. The Member for Carman further noted Beauchesne citation 100, indicating that it is forbidden to offer money or any other advantage to a Member. The Honourable Member for Inkster and the Honourable Official Opposition House Leader spoke to the same point of order. I took the matter under advisement in order to peruse Hansard and in order to consult the procedural authorities.

I thank all Honourable Members for their advice to the Chair on this matter.

I have had the opportunity to review Hansard and to read the remarks of the Honourable Member for Inkster. In first reading the remarks, I can understand why some Members might have misconstrued his comments and perhaps thought that the Honourable Member was offering a favour to the Honourable Minister of Justice. However, after re-reading the remarks and hearing the explanation of the Honourable Member for Inkster, I am satisfied that this was not an attempt to bribe another Member, and would therefore rule that there is no point of order.

I would, however like to address a matter with the House. During this short session, we have seen quite a number of matters of privilege and points of order raised, far more than we usually see. I am bringing this to the attention of Members, and would like Members to think about this, because I fear we are heading into a situation where matters of privilege and points of order may end up becoming trivialized. As the Speaker, I have the obligation to treat matters of privilege and points of order as serious matters, and I believe that all Members of the House would want these procedural items to be treated as serious matters. I am not saying that matters of privilege and points of order should not be raised, because indeed they should be, as a protection of the privileges of Members, and in order to point out a breach of the rules and a departure from usual practices. What I would kindly urge Members to think about, are the situations where points of order are being used to rebut or debate arguments, or are used to attempt to seek the floor in order to carry out another action. I fear we are in danger of losing something vital and important if we continue to go down that road.

Thursday, March 17, 2005

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mr. CALDWELL, Mrs. MITCHELSON, Ms. BRICK, Mr. MAGUIRE and Ms. IRVIN-ROSS made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Adjourned Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

And the proposed amendment moved by Mr. MURRAY as follows:

THAT the motion be amended by deleting all the words after "House" and substituting the following:

therefore regrets this Budget ignores the present and future needs of Manitobans by:

- (a) Failing to offer any vision and to reflect the priorities of Manitoba; and
- (b) Failing to provide a long-term economic strategy and tax reduction strategy that addresses the fact that Manitobans are now, under the Doer NDP government, the highest taxed west of New Brunswick, and make Manitoba a "have" province; and
- (c) Failing to address the debt of Manitoba which has grown under the Doer NDP government, thereby mortgaging our children's future; and
- (d) Failing to eliminate education taxes off of residential property and farmland; and
- (e) Failing to offer a "New Deal" which will meet the needs of Manitoba's municipalities; and
- (f) Failing to provide adequate funding for post-secondary institutions; and
- (g) Failing to provide relief for Manitoba's livestock producers and failing to provide for sufficient slaughter capacity; and
- (h) Failing to provide for a meaningful review of the operation and administration of Manitoba's Regional Health Authorities; and
- (i) Failing to provide a long-term plan for the reduction of health care waiting lists; and
- (j) Failing to provide an opportunity for publicly funded health care services in privately-managed clinics; and
- (k) Failing to provide child care options for parents by failing to support for- profit child care centers as well as not-for-profit centers, and failing to provide a tax credit for stay-at-home parents; and
- (l) Failing Manitoba's sick and elderly by increasing Pharmacare deductibles by 20% over the past four years; and
- (m) Failing to support Manitoba's environment by failing to provide for the long-term sustainability of Manitoba's recycling and product stewardship programs; and

- (n) Failing to deal with record numbers of auto thefts and record numbers of murders; and
- (o) Failing to provide a plan or strategy to break up existing gangs and prevent new gangs from coming to Manitoba; and
- (p) Failing to deal with the high number of grow-ops and labs manufacturing illegal drugs and the proliferation of drugs; and
- (q) Failing to acknowledge their raid on Manitoba Hydro contributed to a 10% increase in Hydro rates.

As a consequence, the Government has thereby lost the confidence of this House and the people of Manitoba.

And the proposed sub-amendment moved by Hon. Mr. GERRARD as follows:

THAT the amendment be amended by adding thereto the following words:

And further regrets that this Budget also ignores present and future needs of Manitobans by:

- (r) Failing to provide an effective plan to improve health and prevent sickness; and
- (s) Failing to provide an effective strategy to deal with child poverty; and
- (t) Failing to provide Manitobans with the approach needed to decrease childhood obesity and diabetes; and
- (u) Failing to provide Manitobans with the legal right to timely, quality health care; and
- (v) Failing to do any better then the previous Tory government in improving the dental health of Manitoba children and decreasing the incidence of early childhood tooth decay.

And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Messrs. AGLUGUB and SCHULER, Ms. BRICK, Mrs. ROWAT and Hon. Mr. DOER having spoken,

Mr. Acting Deputy Speaker advised the House that notice had been received by the Leader of the Official Opposition that he had designated his unlimited speaking time to speak on this debate to the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet.

And Mr. HAWRANIK and Hon. Mr. SELINGER having spoken.

And the Question being put on the sub-amendment. It was negatived.

Thursday, March 17, 2005

And the Question being put on the amendment. It was negatived, on the following division:

YEA

CULLEN MAGUIRE **CUMMINGS MITCHELSON MURRAY** DERKACH **PENNER DRIEDGER DYCK** REIMER **ROWAT EICHLER GOERTZEN SCHULER HAWRANIK STEFANSON** LOEWEN NAY

AGLUGUB MACKINTOSH **ALLAN** MALOWAY **ALTEMEYER MARTINDALE ASHTON McGifford BJORNSON** MELNICK **BRICK NEVAKSHONOFF CALDWELL OSWALD CHOMIAK** REID **DEWAR ROBINSON DOER RONDEAU GERRARD SALE IRVIN-ROSS S**ANTOS **JENNISSEN SCHELLENBERG**

JHA SELINGER
KORZENIOWSKI SMITH
LAMOUREUX STRUTHERS
LATHLIN SWAN

LEMIEUX WOWCHUK......36

And the Question being put on the main motion. It was agreed to, on the following division:

YEA

AGLUGUB	MALOWAY
ALLAN	Martindale
ALTEMEYER	McGifford
ASHTON	MELNICK
BJORNSON	NEVAKSHONOFF
Brick	OSWALD
CALDWELL	REID
Сноміак	ROBINSON
DEWAR	RONDEAU
Doer	SALE
IRVIN-ROSS	SANTOS
JENNISSEN	SCHELLENBERG
JHA	SELINGER
Korzeniowski	SMITH
LATHLIN	STRUTHERS
LEMIEUX	SWAN
MACKINTOSH	WOWCHUK34
N	AY
CULLEN	Loewen
CUMMINGS	MAGUIRE
DERKACH	MITCHELSON
Driedger	Murray
DYCK	PENNER
EICHLER	REIMER
Gerrard	ROWAT
GOERTZEN	SCHULER
HAWRANIK	STEFANSON
LAMOUREUX	TAILLIEU20

Hon. Mr. MACKINTOSH presented:

Sequence for consideration of the Estimates by the Committee of Supply, both in the Chamber and outside the Chamber.

(Sessional Paper No. 37)

The House then adjourned at 5:16 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 21, 2005.

Hon. George HICKES, Speaker.