

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 16

FIFTH SESSION, THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE **PRAYERS** 1:30 O'CLOCK P.M. Pursuant to Rule 20 (1), Messrs. REID, ROCAN and SANTOS, Mrs. DRIEDGER (Charleswood) and Ms. McGIFFORD made Members' Statements. Hon. Mr. PRAZNIK moved: THAT in accordance with sub-sections 11.1(5) and (6) of The Provincial Court Act, the Report of the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections respecting Judicial Compensation received on April 7, 1999, be concurred in. And the Question being put, It was agreed to. The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. FILMON: THAT Bill (No. 17) - The Elections Amendment and Elections Finances Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi électorale et la Loi sur le financement des campagnes électorales, be now read a Third Time and passed. And the debate continuing, And Ms. BARRETT concluding her remarks, And Messrs. LAMOUREUX, CHOMIAK, EVANS (Brandon East) and MALOWAY, Hon. Mr. ENNS, Ms. CERILLI and Mr. MARTINDALE having spoken, And the Question being put, It was agreed to. The Bill was accordingly read a Third Time and passed.

His Honour, PETER LIBA, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba, having entered the House at 4:45 p.m., and being seated on the Throne:

Madam Speaker addressed His Honour in the following words:

May it please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly, at its present session, passed a Bill, which in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour and to which Bill I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent:

(No. 17) – The Elections Amendment and Elections Finances Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi électorale et la Loi sur le financement des campagnes électorales

To this Bill the Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as follows:

"In Her Majesty's Name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to this Bill."

At 4:46 p.m., His Honour was then pleased to retire.

Mr. STRUTHERS moved:

Resolution No. 5: School Taxes

WHEREAS in 1988, the Provincial Government was paying 76 percent of the total cost of education – the rest being the special levy or school tax; and

WHEREAS in 1998, the Provincial Government was contributing only 67 percent of the total public education bill; and

WHEREAS school divisions have been forced to reduce classroom opportunities and increase school taxes to backfill the cuts; and

WHEREAS in the lead up to the 1990 election, the Premier told Manitobans that it would be the goal of his Government to increase the Provincial Government's contribution to 80 percent; and

WHEREAS as a result of these cuts, school taxes all across the province have been escalating, causing a great burden on Manitoba families; and

WHEREAS residents of communities like Selkirk, Neepawa, and Brandon have averaged double digit increases in the last two years; and

WHEREAS early in its mandate, the Provincial Government reduced the property tax credit from \$325 to \$250, which translated into a \$75 property tax increase; and

WHEREAS according to the Provincial Auditor, there is a \$565 million "Fiscal Stabilization Fund" which has been built up in part because education has been underfunded.

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Premier to take responsibility for this unnecessary financial burden on Manitoba families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the Minister of Education to consider providing adequate and stable funding to public education.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. STRUTHERS and Hon. Mr. McCRAE having spoken,

And Mr. SALE speaking,

During debate, Hon. Mr. McCRAE rose on a point of order regarding comments allegedly spoken by the Honourable Member for Crescentwood in reference to the Honourable Minister of Education and Training.

And Mr. SALE having spoken to the point of order,

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker informed the House she would take the matter under advisement.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. SALE concluding his remarks,

And Mr. McALPINE having spoken

And Mr. SVEINSON speaking at 5:48 p.m.,

The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

The House then adjourned at 5:48 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Hon. Louise Dacquay, Speaker.