

Official Languages Act

Speech from the Throne in October last year, to define the linguistic rights of public servants and the duties of the departments, agencies and Crown corporations, and to determine the role of the courts in the administration of the Act. Consequently, Mr. Speaker, I believe that this bill should receive the support of all parties in this House and be referred to the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts for a closer examination of those objectives.

[English]

Mr. Robert Daudlin (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, the opportunity the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) has given us to expose the various views and difficulties that we have has been most helpful and fruitful. I judge from the fact there have been no speakers from the other side that there is substantially complete approval by the opposition parties with at least the subject matter, if not the actual fact, of this particular bill.

Because there are no other voices, I judge there is totality of agreement on the other side and that this bill should be adopted and sent to committee. However, in order that the opportunity might remain for all members to have the opportunity to express any further concerns they might have either with the specifics or with the subject matter—

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member has pointed out that members of the opposition have not participated in this debate. The reason I have not participated is because I do not want this bill talked out. If it is talked out it will be the Liberal members who talk it out and not the members on this side. I support the principle of this bill 100 per cent. I do not intend to participate further. I want to see the bill proceed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. I suggest that is not a point of order.

Mr. Daudlin: I thank the hon. member for adding that, Mr. Speaker. If he would have waited another second or two, he would not have had such great concern. I was about to suggest that if the appropriate administrative acts can be taken, the subject matter of this bill could be referred to the committee. I suggest we take that step before five o'clock so that the subject matter, not the bill, will be referred to the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. I would need a motion to that effect.

● (1652)

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I would like to move:

That Bill C-202 be withdrawn and that the subject matter of the bill be referred to the standing committee of the House which is considering the radio and television estimates.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order. The House has heard the terms of the motion of the hon. member for Ottawa-Vanier (Mr. Gauthier). Does the House agree with the proposed amendment?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): By unanimous consent of the House?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Lachance: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): The hon. member for Lafontaine-Rosemont (Mr. Lachance) on a point of order.

Mr. Lachance: Since we have concluded the order of business for today, I suggest that we call it five o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Does the House agree to call it five o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order. The hour provided for consideration of private members' business has now expired. It being five o'clock, this House stands adjourned until Monday at 2 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At 4.54 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.