

*Government Orders*

Duncan  
Forsyth  
Gauthier (Roberval)  
Godin  
Grey (Beaver River)  
Guimond  
Harper (Calgary West)  
Hart  
Hermanson  
Hoeppner  
Johnston  
Landry  
Lebel  
Leroux (Shefford)  
Martin (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca)  
McLaughlin  
Mills (Red Deer)  
Ménard  
Picard (Drummond)  
Pomerleau  
Ramsay  
Ringma  
Sauvageau  
Scott (Skeena)  
Solberg  
Speaker  
Taylor  
Venne

Epp  
Frazer  
Gilmour  
Gouk  
Guay  
Hanrahan  
Harper (Simcoe Centre)  
Hayes  
Hill (Macleod)  
Jennings  
Lalonde  
Langlois  
Leblanc (Longueuil)  
Marchand  
McClelland (Edmonton Southwest)  
Meredith  
Morrison  
Paré  
Plamondon  
Péloquin  
Riis  
Rocheleau  
Schmidt  
Silye  
Solomon  
Strahl  
Tremblay (Rimouski—Témiscouata)  
White (Fraser Valley West)—78

## PAIRED MEMBERS

## Members

Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre)  
Canuel  
Cauchon  
Copp  
DeVillers  
Fillion  
MacLaren (Etobicoke North)  
O'Brien  
St-Laurent

Bouchard  
Caron  
Chan  
Dalphond—Guiral  
Dumas  
Leroux (Richmond—Wolfe)  
Mercier  
Parrish  
Young

• (1115)

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu):** I declare the motion carried.

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ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT  
SUSPENSION ACT

The House resumed from March 21, consideration of the motion that Bill C-18, an act to suspend the operation of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, be read the second time and referred to a committee; and of the amendment.

**Miss Deborah Grey (Beaver River):** Madam Speaker, I finished my speech the other night at 6.42 and I am certainly open to questions and comments.

**Mr. Stephen Harper (Calgary West):** Madam Speaker, I listened with great interest the other night to the speech of the hon. member for Beaver River who talked extensively about her riding. We all remember the time she was first elected in the House to represent the new riding of Beaver River. I had the honour of being her assistant at that time and of assisting her in planting the flag of Reform in the House of Commons. That was

a momentous day. Obviously she feels very strongly about some of the proposed changes under the current scheme for her riding.

I was concerned during her speech on Monday. Some comments were hurled across the way which maybe do not appear in the *Hansard* transcript. They really raised questions about the partisanship or lack of partisanship and integrity of Elections Canada and its senior officials. There were a number of comments hurled across the way to the effect that Elections Canada was a partisan body. Its members have strong affiliations to another political party which is no longer recognized in the House.

The hon. member for Beaver River has been a member since 1989. She has run in two elections and a byelection. Could she comment at some length on her experiences with Elections Canada as a candidate and as a lone member of Parliament for a good deal of time? Did she find that Elections Canada was a partisan organization, that it had that kind of orientation, or was she happy with her dealings with that organization as an independent member and now as a Reform member?

**Miss Grey (Beaver River):** Madam Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his remarks. It is nice to have him as a colleague again in the House of Commons, this time as a fellow member of Parliament.

He has asked me to address the issue of how I feel about Elections Canada. Before I answer the question I might just answer how I felt about some of the remarks that were being hurled across the House. I suppose I was partly amused but also partly saddened by the consistent comments of the member for Vancouver South. He kept saying loudly across the House as I was speaking the other night: "I will lose my riding as well. It is not just Beaver River that is going to be dismantled". The member for Vancouver South was saying that his riding would also be dismantled.

• (1120)

That is all well and fine, but we need to draw the distinction in the House that it could be one reason the government is trying to ram the bill through so quickly, because he stands to lose his seat. I am in the position of standing to lose my constituency as well. In other words I will not have a place to run in the next election if I choose to run again.

That is why I think it is more important for someone in this party who stands to lose a constituency not to be so self-serving as to say: "Yes, let us put the whole process off". Then I would be serving my own interests and saying: "Whew, I am safe. I can carry on". There is a real discrepancy when someone from the other side was hollering: "I will lose my seat". It would be perfectly natural then for him to support his government on railroading the bill through Parliament and putting the whole process on hold. There is a real difference of opinion there. As a