

*Supply*

**Mr. Robert D. Nault (Kenora—Rainy River):** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to enter into this debate. I want to follow up on what my colleague has talked about in his opening remarks to the people of Canada.

One of the things that has concerned me the most as a member is the facade which the Conservative government is now putting up, that everything is good in the land. It says we had a recession. It was a world recession. It was not our fault. We could not do anything about it. We have a debt so therefore we do not have the capability of helping Canadians to find work and to get the economy working again.

The facade that is being portrayed in this House today has been portrayed out on the hustings for a number of months because an election is coming. It has to be put to rest. We have to get back to the debate that we are in today, concerning legitimate ideas from members of Parliament as to how we get 1.5 million Canadians back to work.

Before I give my suggestions, and allow the government to analyse them, I hope it will do something instead of spending its time trying to suggest to Canadians that things are great out there. Let me mention to the government opposite what has happened in the last few years.

In 1990 Canada's business community had 11,642 bankruptcies, 2,907 in Ontario alone. In 1991 Canada had 13,496 bankruptcies, Ontario had 3,629. In 1992 Canada had 14,317 bankruptcies, Ontario had 4,240. These are business bankruptcies. They are not personal bankruptcies, and the difficulties incurred with that issue. They are simply business bankruptcies.

• (1605)

I want to spend my time today talking about what the government should be doing to get people back to work. It should be dealing with ways of helping small business, getting governments off the backs of small business. In that way small businesses can start spending their time figuring out, imagining in their own minds and being creative, ways to create employment and of course to

make a profit for themselves in creating that employment that we are talking about.

I want to mention something that I got from a friend who is the new president of the Ontario Hotel-Motel Association. He gave me a list of regulatory hoops that a small business has to go through in order to start up a small business in Ontario. They call it the wall. In front of me I have a list of 42 regulatory agencies which a small business has to talk to before it can even open its doors. There are 42 different agencies in Ontario that an entrepreneur has to go and see before he can even attempt to make his first dollar.

Let me list them as quickly as I can. It is important for people to realize and not to be surprised that nobody in this country would even dare to start their own business given these kinds of situations.

Entrepreneurs have to see the municipal authority and check the by-laws. They have to look at the planning act, check the official plan and the zoning by-laws. They have to have a site plan control and deal with regional authorities, public works, policy statements, proposed wetlands policy, the Municipal Act, Building Code Act, Public Parks Act, Public Lands Act, Surveyor's Act and Surveys Act, Provincial Parks Act, Woodlands Improvement Act, Forestry Act, Crown Timbers Act, Trees Act, LLBO, Hotel Fire Marshall, Boards of Navigational Waters Act, Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act, Conservation Authorities Act, Wilderness Areas Act, Aggregate Resource Act, Fisheries Act, Endangered Species Act, Environmental Protection Act, Ontario Water Resources Act, Environmental Assessment Act, Public Health Act, Ontario Heritage Act, Foodland Guidelines, Farm Practices Protection Act, Off-Road Vehicles Act, Public Transportation Act, Highway Improvement Act, Public Service Works Act, Industrial Safety Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Mr. Speaker, when you take a look at these regulatory agencies, can you imagine why no one in their right mind would want to start a business in Ontario or in Canada?

**Mr. Mills:** You have not even included the Income Tax Act.