

That the Committee submit its report not later than September 14, 1987, provided that, if the House is not sitting, the report will be deemed submitted on the day such report is deposited with the Clerk of the House of Commons and with the Clerk of the Senate;

That substitution be authorized, for Members from the House of Commons, from a list of alternates to be provided to the Joint Chairmen of the Special Joint Committee by a representative of each party at the first meeting of the Committee, such list of alternates to contain no more than twice the number of Members of the House of Commons who are Members of the Special Joint Committee representing each party in the House;

That the quorum of the Committee be eight Members, whenever a vote, resolution or other decision is taken, so long as both Houses are represented, and that the Joint Chairmen be authorized to hold meetings, to receive evidence and authorize the printing thereof, when six Members are present so long as both Houses are represented; and

That a message be sent to the Senate requesting that House to unite with this House for the above purpose, and to select, if the Senate deems it to be advisable, five Members to act on the proposed Special Joint Committee.

ATTEST

Michael B. Kirby  
for *The Clerk of the House of Commons*

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this message be taken into consideration?

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government and Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations):** Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 44(1)(d), now.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Is leave granted, honourable senators?

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

**Senator Murray:** Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 44(1)(d), I move:

That the Senate do unite with the House of Commons in the appointment of a Special Joint Committee to consider and report on the "1987 Constitutional Accord, signed in Ottawa on June 3, 1987, by the First Ministers of Canada", copies of which were tabled in the Senate and the House of Commons on June 3, 1987.

That twelve Members of the House of Commons and five Members of the Senate be the Members of the Special Joint Committee, such Members on the part of the Senate to be designated no later than seven sitting days after the adoption of this motion;

That the Committee have the power to appoint from among its Members such sub-committees as may be deemed advisable, and to delegate to such sub-committees

all or any of their powers except the power to report directly to the Senate;

That the Committee have power to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate;

That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to examine witnesses and to print such papers and evidence from day to day as may be ordered by the Committee;

That the Committee be empowered to authorize television and radio broadcasting, as it deems appropriate, of any or all of its proceedings or of proceedings of its sub-committees, pursuant to the principles and practices governing the broadcasting of the proceedings of the House of Commons;

That the Committee submit its report not later than September 14, 1987, provided that, if the Senate is not sitting, the report will be deemed submitted on the day such report is deposited with the Clerk of the Senate;

That substitution be authorized, for Members from the House of Commons, from a list of alternates to be provided to the Joint Chairmen of the Special Joint Committee by a representative of each party at the first meeting of the Committee, such list of alternates to contain no more than twice the number of Members of the House of Commons who are Members of the Special Joint Committee representing each party in the House;

That the quorum of the Committee be eight Members, whenever a vote, resolution or other decision is taken, so long as both Houses are represented, and that the Joint Chairmen be authorized to hold meetings, to receive evidence and authorize the printing thereof, when six Members are present so long as both Houses are represented; and

That a Message be sent to the House of Commons to acquaint that House accordingly.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

**Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** No, it is not.

**Senator Murray:** Honourable senators, today's motion is almost anti-climactic. Honourable senators knew it was coming. The government had announced its intention in this regard some time ago. I had conveyed that information to honourable senators. Notwithstanding that fact, honourable senators, in a majority, voted the other day to refer the matters under discussion to a Committee of the Whole of the Senate.

Honourable senators opposite, however, took the position, if I understood the Leader of the Opposition correctly, that referring the Constitutional Accord to Committee of the Whole did not prejudice the position they might take on an invitation from the House of Commons to join with that House in a joint committee. Members of the other place were, and are, well aware of the decision that was taken, for whatever reason, by a majority of members of this place. Notwithstand-

[The Hon. the Speaker.]