

Government Orders

the Governor General puts his signature on it does not mean the 3 per cent tax is gone. No, it will be gone when enough revenue has been raised through this other process.

That reminds me of the promise made—I am not quite sure whether it was just after World War I or during World War II when the Government of Canada decided to impose a temporary income tax on Canadians.

An hon. member: It was in 1917.

Mr. Angus: I thank the tax expert in the corner. In 1917 it was a temporary tax on income. Well, we all have our farms at home. We know that the 1917 temporary tax has become a permanent feature. It is said that death and taxes are with us always.

When the government says: “We will eliminate it down the road,” we have no faith. We have no faith that the government will do that. In addition to convincing government members to vote in favour of deleting these particular clauses we must see how else we can assist our young people in getting that education and minimizing the barriers to accessing education. More important, an education designed toward a career does not do any good if the jobs are not there.

Everything this government has done from my perspective is to eliminate, eliminate, eliminate jobs. It has created an environment where it is impossible for the private sector to create jobs. All it has been able to do is downsize, downsize, downsize. Look at rail. Look at air. Look at the whole transportation sector.

Look at research and development. We are not putting dollars into that field either publicly or privately to create an opportunity for our young scientists or engineers to get into the workforce and do some good things for Canada and the world. We do not do enough research on the medical side so that we can put those medical specialists who are more interested in working in the laboratory than working with individual people because they know they can find a solution to a problem as opposed to fixing what is broken. We do not provide the resources there either.

I say to the government that these clauses are wrong. They should be deleted. That is why my caucus is

supporting these particular motions which we would have put in in any case in the name of the member for Windsor—St. Clair. I hope the government is listening and is prepared to recognize that what it is doing is not going to help our young people get ahead in this world.

Mr. Dave Worthy (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak to the amendments proposed by my colleagues opposite.

It is important to remember that the budget of this government was dedicated to fiscal restraint and deficit reduction in the interest of sound responsible management. In Bill C-76 we amend the Lobbyists Registration Act, the Salaries Act and the Canada Student Loans Act.

• (1040)

All measures were designed with restraint in mind. The measures in this bill pertaining to the Canada Student Loans Program were introduced as part of the government's over-all restraint program.

I would like to remind all members of the House that we do not practise restraint because it is fun or because we are opposed to programs. We practise restraint because of the need for responsible management. The removal of the six-month post-school interest free period as of the 1993-94 loan year is an integral part of this over-all effort. Some of my colleagues want this measure removed from the bill.

The 1992 budget signalled the government's commitment to reform the Canada Student Loans Program. This was reiterated in the December economic statement. We all agree on the continuing importance of the Canada Student Loans Program in maintaining an accessible post-secondary learning system. But that does not preclude the need for constructive reform.

Like so many other areas of public policy, it is necessary to update the program to ensure that it continues to provide assistance to needy students. The amendments of Bill C-76 should be viewed in the context of other measures currently being undertaken by the government to strengthen and improve the Canada Student Loans Program.

As currently structured the federal government guarantees loans made to full-time students by lending institutions. The taxpayers through the government pay