Routine Proceedings

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passed, and concerns about parts of the bill can be addressed.

[Translation]

Mr. Hudon: Madam Speaker, on a point of order. After what I just heard, I think it would be advisable, before the House votes on second reading, to ask the unanimous consent of the House for referral of Bill C-35 to the Standing Committee on Justice and Solicitor General.

[English]

Mr. Dingwall: Madam Speaker, I did not correctly understand the request of the parliamentary secretary. The reference is to a legislative committee and not a standing committee. There has not been any discussion among House leaders with regard to a standing committee. Therefore I would like to defer any decision on that at this time. Perhaps we can have further discussions later in the day and thereby accommodate the hon. member. But there is no consent, Madam Speaker.

Mr. Angus: Madam Speaker, I have just checked and found that there were consultations and we did agree to it going to a standing committee. However, I respect the concern of the House leader for the Official Opposition that perhaps we need to revisit it quickly and then, hopefully before the completion of the debate, make a final determination.

Madam Deputy Speaker: As all hon. members know we would need unanimous consent, so we will put the motion as presented by the hon. member aside for the time being.

Mr. George Proud (Hillsborough): Madam Speaker, I rise to add my comments to this proposed legislation and to help rush it through the House. In another motion here today I believe we are talking about the decorum and the way we do things in this institution.

I believe, as our House leader, the House leader of the New Democratic Party and other members of the other party have said, that we cannot bring this type of legislation in at the last minute and rush it through without more scrutiny. The member for Cape Breton—East Richmond mentioned items he found dealing with the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. This agency will, among other things, now only have to make a

detailed report every five years. This idea of reporting every five years leads me to wonder what is wrong with this regional development program. This program is supposed to be the program to assist Atlantic Canada out of the financial doldrums it has been in for so long a time.

We have had many federal agencies in Atlantic Canada in the last 75 years. This we were told would be the one that would answer our great economic problems. I find it problematic that after the number of years it has been in existence it is now only going to give detailed public reports every five years.

This leads me to wonder if this great organization is having more problems than we know about. This is just one thing that has been found in this omnibus bill as it proceeds through the House. I believe there are many others. We see the Federal Court Act. We see the Canada Pension Plan. Other items deal with the Financial Administration Act. Maybe there are areas in the bill which we should scrutinize much more closely rather than rush it through the House in one day's debate.

I believe that these omnibus bills should not be brought here and Parliament asked without notice to rush them through. There are some 90 acts within this piece of legislation. That is a lot of detail for members of Parliament to go over and decide whether they can agree with it or not.

We on this side of the House do not believe that we should do that at this time. In all sincerity I say that we are looking later in the day to make this place a better one in which to serve. I am all for that. I said that the other day.

We cannot bring bills like this to the House on Friday morning and wonder if we can get them through.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

TRANSPORT

AUTHORIZATION FOR STANDING COMMITTEE TO TRAVEL

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. There have been