commitments to deficit reduction and controlled fiscal planning introduced in 1984 were reinforced.

Specifically, the government's wage policy became an integral part of this seven-year strategy, a strategy that will affect not only the PSAC but all public servants, all parliamentarians, all Order in Council appointees, all Crown corporation employees, all military personnel and all RCMP staff. Unquestionably, this is a tough policy, but it is a fair one.

I agree with the President of the Treasury Board who said that the public servants deserve more, but our financial resources do not allow it.

Nothing we are doing in this legislation can be truthfully construed as union-bashing. Over the past seven years, as member of Parliament for the federal riding of Kitchener, I have come in direct working contact with hundreds of public servants at all levels.

The vast majority are excellent public servants. Further, I admire their tolerance and their patience with the many different demands placed upon them by the public and the policies which they must implement, given to them by government. On almost all occasions, my staff and I have received excellent service for our constituents from our Immigration, Canada Pension, Canada Employment or Customs and Excise public servants and many others in government departments I have not mentioned.

I also know that not all PSAC members want this strike. Not all are picketing. Some have tried to go to work and have done so. Some are picketing as a result of peer pressure and intimidation.

Further, I think it is essential that we quickly pass this back-to-work legislation. Just a little over an hour ago, I received the following facsimile message from a company in my riding. Here are some of the points made to me. Two names were mentioned and I will not read them. The message said these two people are not available due to the PSAC strike, so it is impossible to reach them at the local office of Revenue Canada. Customs staff at Toronto airport have just gone out, so we cannot ship anything to Czechoslovakia as part of our regular shipping schedule. The company is denied the possibility to exchange and to sell goods from Canada to Czechoslovakia.

Further, the company says cheques from the Export Development Corporation due from previous shipments to Czechoslovakia are being held up. And therefore, the end: "We are running out of time. The bank will not continue to simply extend their good will to us."

In other words, the bank demands the money and if it does not get it, the bank closes a company. Therefore, both the managers and the workers are unemployed as a result of this strike. That is why we are bringing in this legislation.

The country cannot afford this strike, workers at all levels in my riding want this legislation and they want it now.

The reality is that to govern one must choose. There are at least two alternatives we could follow. The way we proposed in this budget which will apply to everyone including the Prime Minister, the cabinet, members of Parliament, senior managers and all the bargaining units in the Public Service or the road chosen by the NDP government in Ontario. Those are two different alternatives.

It is very interesting and very informative to compare the federal government and six provinces which have followed the federal government's lead on the one hand, and the Government of Ontario on the other.

In the February budget, we proposed the zero, three and three for the next three years with some flexibility in other areas of the agreements with the different bargaining units.

Let us look at six examples of other provinces that have followed the federal government's lead. Nova Scotia has introduced legislation that will provide for a zero per cent increase in the next two years, 1991-92 and 1992-93. That is two years in a row at zero.

Saskatchewan introduced legislation of 2 per cent for this year and 2 per cent next year. Manitoba has introduced zero per cent for 1990-91 and that is back-dating it, and also 2 per cent for 1991-92. Quebec has introduced a zero per cent freeze from January 1, 1992 to June 30, 1992, followed by 3 per cent. Newfoundland has introduced zero per cent for 1991-92. New Brunswick has introduced zero per cent also for 1991-92.