

Government Orders

grandfathers who want to talk to their grandchildren that this is their way of fighting the deficit. Maybe, if we can just take a little bit more money from you when you dare call your family, that will be your way of fighting the deficit.

• (1540)

Of course, it is a double whammy. Take more out of the taxpayer when it comes to making a phone call and then on the other side seniors are asked to pay more through the clawback. If you conducted your life well, if you worked hard, and if you retired with a half decent income, what does the government say? The government says you have been kind of naughty. You are earning too much money. We are going to take some of that back. In fact, we will take all of it back when it comes to old age security. Is that any way to run a country? Is that any way to treat people who have built this country, who have worked hard? Is that any way to treat seniors? I do not think so.

I do not think the government has the mandate, the right to impose these taxes. I ran in the election campaign last fall and I do not recall the Conservatives talking about a 9 per cent GST. I do not remember the Conservatives talking about increasing the manufacturers' sales tax another point and a half. After all, they had raised it from 9 per cent back in 1984, and now they want to push it up to 13.5 per cent. Did they talk about a 1 per cent increase in the telecommunications tax? No. I seriously wonder whether they have the mandate to do what they are doing.

In closing, that this is a nasty piece of legislation. There is only one place to put it—the garbage can.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The question is on Motion No. 3 standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Calgary Northeast (Mr. Kindy).

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Pursuant to Standing Order 76(8) the recorded division on the motion stands deferred.

Motions No. 4 and 5 standing in the names of the Hon. Member for Yukon and for Calgary Northeast respectively, will be grouped together for debate but voted on separately.

Mr. Ross Harvey (for Ms. McLaughlin) moved:

Motion No. 4

That Bill C-20 be amended in Clause 3 by striking out lines 26 to 30 and lines 37 to 39 at page 2.

Mr. Alex Kindy (Calgary Northeast) moved:

Motion No. 5

That Bill C-20 be amended by deleting Clause 3.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I simply want to say to my colleagues in the government and in the Official Opposition that we appreciate their unanimous consent to allow the motion to be put other than in the name of the hon. member for Yukon, considering her other duties this afternoon.

Mr. Harvey (Edmonton East) Mr. Speaker, "a silent killer of jobs"—"a silent killer of jobs". That is how the Minister of Finance repeatedly has characterized the manufacturers' sales tax. In many respects, we on this side of the House agree with that assessment. It is, perhaps, a bit dramatic—"a silent killer of jobs"—but it is not inaccurate. The functioning of the manufacturers' sales tax has been shown, as is agreed on all sides of the house, to have a negative effect on manufacturing and consequently on manufacturing jobs in this country. So I think it is safe to say, at least to the best of my knowledge, that no member of this House supports the manufacturers' sales tax, certainly not in its current form. If there is any member of the House who wishes to rise now and say otherwise, I would be fascinated to hear it. But I would again say that to my knowledge, no one, not a single member of this House, supports the manufacturers' sales tax in its current form, assuming I can