

will spell higher taxes, less social programs and, most of all, the cutting of Atlantic Canada's lifeline.

The fabric of social programs is starting to fray and medicare will be the first to go. Smaller provinces or territories will not be able to hold the system together or to support the development of the new and innovative health programs that are needed.

How can the federal government expect a small province or territory to maintain national health care standards, given that it has slashed Established Programs Financing. Moreover, the estimates of accumulative loss to provincial and territorial health care funding from 1986-87 to 1991-95 will total at least \$22 billion.

It is frightening what this government is doing to what once was called a sacred trust of our country and our community. It is ironic that Canada has been held up as a model for the United States while we ourselves, are in danger of losing our medicare and ending up with a worse system than they have with user fees, extra billings and, most of all, two systems; one for the rich and one for the poor.

Speaking of my own province, we have a small tax base with 125,000 or 130,000 people. Has the Government of Canada forgotten the small areas of this country? With an already aging population and with the youth of the province going to have to leave and relocate in the Golden Triangle of central Canada, P.E.I. has a higher than average age group.

With this age group comes a greater demand for health care. Of course, with a greater demand for health care comes a greater need for financing. The freeze in federal-provincial transfer payments, as was said in the House a few minutes ago, has already resulted in the harshest budget ever handed down in Newfoundland.

Nine hundred health care jobs were lost; 360 hospital beds were closed. If this plan of action continues, health care will be eliminated.

In conclusion, I just want to say that I have heard the member opposite from South Shore speaking that his commitment to medicare will continue. I hope that the members of this House will see that we will not lose this sacred trust that is famous and renowned world-wide.

Supply

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): It being 5.45 o'clock p.m., it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings and put forthwith every question necessary to dispose of the business of supply pursuant to Standing Order 81(14).

The question is on the amendment. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): All those in favour of the amendment will please say yea.

Some hon. members: Yea.

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

Some hon. members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Call in the members.

The House divided on the amendment, which was negated on the following division:

(Division No. 395)

YEAS

Members

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Althouse | Arseneault |
| Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing) | Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre) |
| Baker | Barrett |
| Bélair | Bellemare |
| Berger | Bevilacqua |
| Black | Blackburn (Brant) |
| Blaikie | Blondin |
| Boudria | Breaugh |
| Butland | Caccia |
| Callbeck | Catterall |
| Clancy | Comuzzi |
| Dingwall | Dionne |
| Ferguson | Finestone |
| Fisher | Fontana |
| Foster | Gaffney |
| Gagliano | Gardiner |
| Gauthier | Gray (Windsor West) |
| Guarnieri | Harb |
| Harvard | Harvey (Edmonton East) |
| Jordan | Karpoff |
| Keyes | Langan (Mission—Coquitlam) |
| Langdon (Essex—Windsor) | Laporte |
| LeBlanc (Cape Breton Highlands—Canso) | Lee |
| MacDonald (Dartmouth) | MacLaren |
| MacWilliam | Manley |
| Marchi | Marleau |
| Martin (Lasalle—Émard) | McCurdy |
| McGuire | Milliken |
| Mills | Mitchell |
| Murphy | Nault |
| Ouellet | Pagtakhan |
| Parent | Parker |
| Peterson | Phinney |
| Proud | Prud'homme |