

Standing Orders

and control of the two Houses and other related matters as the Committee deems fit;"

That Standing Order 96(4) be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"(4) So far as this House is concerned, the mandate of the Standing Joint Committee on:

(a) Official Languages shall include, among other matters, the review of and report on official languages policies and programs including the annual report of the Commissioner of Official Languages, which shall be deemed, for the purposes of the House, permanently referred to the Committee immediately they are laid upon the Table; and

(b) Regulations and other Statutory Instruments shall include, among other matters, the review and scrutiny of statutory instruments which are permanently referred to the Committee pursuant to the provisions of section 26 of the Statutory Instruments Act.

Provided that both Houses may, from time to time, refer any other matters to the joint committees."

That Standing Order 99(2) be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"(2) Within 150 days of the presentation of a report from a standing or special committee, the government shall, upon the request of the committee, table a comprehensive response thereto."

That Standing Order 101 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"101. Within twenty sitting days of the return to Canada of an officially recognized inter-parliamentary delegation composed, in any part, of Members of the House, the head of the delegation, or a Member acting on behalf of him or her, shall present a report to the House on the activities of the delegation."

That the following new section be added immediately after Standing Order 104(3):

"(4) The office of the Minister who recommended the appointment shall provide the curriculum vitae of such an appointee or nominee to the committee upon written application from the clerk of the committee."

That the chapter title preceding Standing Order 106 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"Public Petitions"

That Standing Order 106(2) be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"(2) In order to be certified, pursuant to section (1) of this Standing Order, every petition shall:

(a) be addressed to the House of Commons or to the House of Commons in Parliament assembled;

(b) contain a clear, proper and respectful prayer requesting that Parliament see fit to take some action within its authority;

(c) be written, typewritten or printed on paper of usual size;

(d) be free of erasures or interlineations;

(e) have its subject matter indicated on every sheet, if it consists of more than one sheet of signatures and addresses;

(f) contain only original signatures and addresses written directly onto the petition and not pasted thereon or otherwise transferred to it; and

(g) contain at least twenty-five signatures, together with the addresses of the signatories, from persons other than Members of Parliament."

That Standing Order 116 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"116. When a Minister of the Crown, from his or her place in the House, states that a majority of the representatives of the several parties have come to an agreement in respect of a proposed allotment of days or hours for the proceedings at any stage of the passing of a public bill, the Minister may propose a motion, without notice, during proceedings under Government Orders, setting forth the terms of the said proposed allocation; provided that for the purposes of this Standing Order an allocation may be proposed in one motion to cover the proceedings at both the report and the third reading stages of a bill if that motion is consistent with the provisions of Standing Order 114(13). During the consideration of any such motion no Member may speak more than once or longer than ten minutes. Not more than two hours after the commencement of proceedings thereon, the Speaker shall put every question

necessary to dispose of the said motion. Any proceeding interrupted pursuant to this Standing Order shall be deemed adjourned."

That Standing Order 117 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"117. A Minister of the Crown who from his or her place in the House, at a previous sitting, has stated that an agreement could not be reached under the provisions of Standing Order 115 or 116 in respect of proceedings at the stage at which a public bill was then under consideration either in the House or in any committee, and has given notice of his or her intention so to do, may propose a motion, during proceedings under Government Orders, for the purpose of allotting a specified number of days or hours for the consideration and disposal of proceedings at that stage; provided that the time allotted for any stage is not to be less than one sitting day and provided that for the purposes of this Standing Order an allocation may be proposed in one motion to cover the proceedings at both the report and the third reading stages on a bill if that motion is consistent with the provisions of Standing Order 114(13). During the consideration of any such motion no Member may speak more than once or longer than ten minutes. Not more than two hours after the commencement of proceedings thereon, the Speaker shall put every question necessary to dispose of the said motion. Any proceedings interrupted pursuant to this Standing Order shall be deemed adjourned."

That the following new Standing Order be inserted immediately before Standing Order 132:

"131.1 (1) A petition for a private bill may be presented by a Member at any time during the sitting of the House by filing the same with the Clerk of the House.

(2) Members presenting petitions for private bills shall be answerable that such petitions do not contain impertinent or improper matter.

(3) Every Member presenting a petition for a private bill shall sign his or her name on the back thereof.

(4) Petitions for private bills may be either written or printed; provided always that when there are three or more petitioners the signatures of at least three petitioners shall be subscribed on the sheet containing the prayer of the petition.

(5) On the next day following the presentation of a petition for a private bill, the Clerk of the House shall lay upon the Table the report of the Clerk of Petitions thereon and such report shall be printed in the Votes and Proceedings of that day. Every petition so reported upon, not containing matter in breach of the privileges of this House and which, according to the Standing Orders or practice of this House, can be received, shall then be deemed to be read and received.

(6) No debate shall be permitted on the report but a petition referred to therein may be read by the Clerk of the House at the Table, if required."—
The Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council.

• (1210)

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this motion after it was clearly and articulately read in both official languages. Perhaps our viewers out there will get a clear impression of what we are trying to do here in entrenching a system of rules and procedures into our permanent Standing Orders.

The motion I have presented to the House has as its principal objective the enshrinement of the parliamentary reform process which has been experimental and provisional for the past two years. The adoption of this motion will make all of those reforms permanent Standing Orders. In so doing this motion confirms the Government's commitment to meaningful and very thorough parliamentary reform.

It is fair to say that Members on all sides of the House have expressed their desire to see these changes continue. I think