

had I been here I would have voted against this legislation in the very strongest terms.

If I may, Madam Speaker, I would like to bring up a question of privilege at this time. Yesterday, I got up in this House on a point of order. I was not recognized while all other members were being recognized. Finally the Speaker ruled that that would be all that would be debated on that issue. I feel that I have been neglected and have not been given my opportunity to speak. I would like to know why I am not being recognized in this House.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. It is a very important one. I received back from the legal clerk of the House my private members' bill which I entered to be on the Order Paper and I wanted to enter it today in the House so it could be in the draw which takes place tomorrow.

This government has been using the tactic of moving to Orders of the Day, which does not permit a member to introduce his bill into the House so it can be eligible for the draw. I have two very important bills. One deals with bank service charges, which is extremely important to consumers of Canada, and the other one deals with class actions. If there is ever protection that consumers need, it is certainly through a class action process. Surely, it is part of the privileges of members of Parliament to enter their bills so that they can participate in the democratic process.

• (1600)

What has happened is that this government—

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Order. I would like to remind the hon. member that it was the unanimous consent of the House yesterday to postpone drawings of private members' bills. Henceforth, I would imagine that the hon. member will have another opportunity to present his bill. Orders of the Day.

*Government Orders*

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[English]

**EXCISE TAX ACT**

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Tuesday, January 30, consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson (Etobicoke Centre) that Bill C-62, an Act to amend the Excise Tax Act, the Criminal Code, the Customs Act, the Customs Tariff, the Excise Act, the Income Tax Act, the Statistics Act and the Tax Court of Canada Act, be now read a second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance; and the amendment of Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra) (p. 7569).

**Mr. René Soetens (Ontario):** Madam Speaker, I would like to—

**Mr. Karpoff:** On a point of order, Madam Speaker. I want to inform the House that I was delayed in coming in for the vote. I want to inform the House that I certainly would have been expressing my opposition to the motion proposed by the Tory government. It is too bad that so many Tories not here to hear how strongly Canada opposes this—

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Resuming debate with the hon. member for Ontario.

**Mr. Soetens:** Madam Speaker, I would like to continue the debate that I was involved in rather extensively yesterday.

**Mr. Harvey:** On a point of order, Madam Speaker. I was most taken with the remarks made by the hon. member for Kootenay East a little while ago. I would like, therefore, to move that the member for Kootenay East be now heard.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** In order for this motion to be acceptable, the member for Kootenay East would have had to be rising and seeking the floor, which he was not. As well, it would have had to be moved before the hon. member for Ontario had started to speak, and the hon. member already had the floor. The floor belongs to the hon. member for Ontario.

**Mr. Soetens:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is a pleasure for me to return to this debate. I was involved in it extensively yesterday. I know that at the end of the