

## S.O. 43

## SOCIAL INSURANCE

SUGGESTION THAT FEDERAL AID BE REPLACED BY SURRENDER OF PROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF TAX POINTS TO PROVINCES—  
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. C.-A. Gauthier (Roberval):** Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to present a motion on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Considering that doctors in several provinces are increasingly disillusioned with the universal medicare plan, that many of them are gradually opting out of the various provincial medicare plans, and that the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) has stated that the federal government will withdraw financial support to the provinces in this field if they fail to solve the problem, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Janelle):

That, so as not to put in greater jeopardy the access of Canadians to medical care, the federal government commit itself to solve the current problem by substituting for the present federal assistance a proportionate number of tax points to the provinces.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The introduction of such a motion under Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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● (1410)

[English]

## HEALTH AND WELFARE

CALL FOR CONVENING OF CONFERENCE OF HEALTH MINISTERS ON MEDICAL CARE PROGRAMS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Given the indication yesterday by the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) that she might be prepared to meet with her provincial counterparts to discuss the viability of the current medicare arrangements in Canada, arrangements which involve much more than fee structures and transfer payments, and taking into consideration the fact that since the introduction of the Medical Care Act 12 years ago, the medicare programs in all provinces have undergone substantial revision and change, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That the Minister of National Health and Welfare give immediate priority to the convening of a conference of health ministers to discuss the basic national criteria of accessibility, universality and portability in medicare with a view to determining whether the provincial programs are meeting those criteria, whether the funding is adequate at both the federal and provincial levels to allow proper implementation of those criteria, and to review the role and responsibility of both levels of government in ensuring the maintenance of a sound medicare program.

[Mr. Speaker.]

**Mr. Speaker:** Such a motion can be presented for discussion at this time only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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## RAILWAYS

PROVISION OF ROLLING STOCK FOR MOVEMENT OF LUMBER—  
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre):** Mr. Speaker, it may not come as a surprise to you that I have a motion under Standing Order 43 regarding boxcars, but this time it has to do with lumber.

Since the matter is of urgent and pressing necessity, and in view of reports today that the lumber industry in British Columbia is in serious difficulty because of the shortage of railway equipment to move that commodity, most of which is for export, and since this is nothing new in that there has been an ongoing and chronic shortage of railway cars not only for lumber but for other commodities such as potatoes and grain, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas):

That the Minister of Transport require the railways to live up to their obligations under section 262 of the Railway Act to supply suitable accommodation for all traffic offered and, further, that the government require immediate action be taken to lease rolling stock from other countries and allocate railway equipment from other parts of Canada that is suitable for lumber transportation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Such a motion can be presented for discussion at this time only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

## AIR TRANSPORT

UNITED STATES OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED AIR CANADA  
BARGAIN RATE FLIGHTS

**Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport, since the Secretary of State for External Affairs is not present.

Since the flight plans of 147,000 Canadians could be in jeopardy because of a threat by the United States to block Air Canada's proposed bargain rate flights to the United States, what action is the government taking to ensure that Canadians will be allowed to benefit from the bargain rate flights? I ask