

down your ruling. I think the Clerk will inform you that he has the letter.

Mr. Speaker: I want to thank the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier. Regarding the other point he raised, it is a very simple problem. His reasons for including the use of both official languages in the Petro-Canada Bill are good, and that is why I said it was regrettable that I could not accept this amendment. For the time being, perhaps the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier could have a discussion with the Clerk and the other officers.

[English]

Hon. John McDermid (Minister of State (Privatization and Regulatory Affairs)): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if my friend was on a point of order or not when he was discussing the motion that was, by your ruling, taken out of the amendments to the bill. However, a lot of information was left hanging by the hon. member when he compared Air Canada with Petro-Canada.

An hon. member: The Official Languages Act does apply.

Mr. McDermid: That is right, the Official Languages Act did apply to Air Canada because it is a national company and does come under the act. Petro-Canada, once privatized, comes under provincial jurisdiction, under provincial law.

An hon. member: Order, he does not know what he is talking about.

Mr. McDermid: This morning the hon. member left a lot of things hanging in his point of order that should be clarified. Perhaps the hon. member can tell me where, in the debate that will be taking place this morning, we might be able to explain that to the public. The hon. member left things hanging, and I think that needs explanation.

Mr. Speaker: I thank the hon. minister for his intervention. I thought that I had made it clear that for procedural reasons there is a difference between a Crown corporation and what will become a privatized company. For that reason, procedurally I could not allow the amendment. I did say in my reasons "regrettably". There it is; it is a procedural thing. It is not for me to speculate on how the matter could be remedied. That is

Government Orders

a matter for members and not a matter for the Chair to comment upon.

The appropriate thing to do now is to complete my ruling. I remind hon. members that there is a recapitulation at the table. I will now propose Motion Nos. 2A, 14A, and 19. to the House.

MEASURE TO ENACT

Mr. Steven Langdon (Essex—Windsor) moved:

Motion No. 2A

That Bill C-84 be amended in clause 9 by adding immediately after line 26 at page 3 the following:

"(a) provisions insuring that the positions of the Chairperson and directors of Petro-Canada shall not be held by non-residents;"

Motion No. 14A

That Bill C-84 be amended in clause 9

(a) by striking out line 5 at page 4 and substituting the following therefor:

"than one per cent of the votes that";

(b) by striking out line 17 at page 4 and substituting the following therefor:

"more than one per cent of the total".

Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River) moved:

Motion No. 19

That Bill C-84 be amended in clause 9

(a) by adding immediately after line 49 at page 4 the following:

"(h) provisions prohibiting the direct or indirect ownership of voting shares of Petro-Canada by a foreign government or any agency thereof;"

(b) by striking out lines 15 and 16 at page 8.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, we have a whole set of amendments in front of us today, which I suspect we will spend considerable time in this House debating, because they deal with some of the critical weaknesses in the present bill respecting the privatization of Petro-Canada.

We had hoped to be able to persuade the government to accept a number of other important suggestions not included in the set of amendments before us. For instance, we stressed that in these days of environmental concern it was extremely important that Petro-Canada reflect the concerns and aspirations of many Canadians with respect to environmental matters. We have raised this question in committee and actually had a fairly positive response from the chairman of Petro-Canada, Mr. Wilfred Hopper. However, it has not been possible to persuade the government that some of these environ-