

*Motions*

legislation in order to give them, in my opinion, a real edge in the market-place. They hired a firm called Government Consultants International. It is an Ottawa lobbying firm owned by former Newfoundland Premier Frank Moores and Halifax businessman Gerald Doucet. We all know that Mr. Moores had been a strong supporter of the Prime Minister since 1976 when he was one of the leaders of the "dump Joe Clark" movement before the 1983 leadership convention. After the Tories won the 1984 election, he opened up his lobbying firm. Here we have a very influential, well-known, significant Conservative setting up a lobbying firm in Ottawa on contract to the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada to, if you like, Mr. Speaker, peddle its influence with the Government, sell its influence, use its knowledge of various individuals, officials, politicians, and members of the Cabinet, perhaps even people in the Prime Minister's Office or Privy Council Office, to see what it can do on behalf of its clients, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada, which is made up of 65 multinational drug companies.

When Canadians see this kind of thing happen, they wonder whether or not their best interest will be represented, and this has been the core of discussions and debate which have gone on now both in the House and in the standing committee. I do not believe there is any question in anyone's mind these days that some way to deal with lobbying and lobbyists is not only long overdue but must be done quickly. I would like to read the following from the committee report itself:

We recommend that lobbying be defined as attempting to influence either directly or indirectly any governmental decision whether it be legislative or administrative.

We recommend that the act of lobbying government be specifically defined as to include:

- (a) attempting to influence the making or amending of legislation or regulations;
- (b) attempting to influence the making or changing of federal policies or programs;
- (c) attempting to influence federal decisions on the awarding of grants, contracts, contributions or any similar benefit;
- (d) attempting to influence federal appointments to boards, commissions and any other public office.

We recommend that in order to escape the problems which have plagued the United States federal lobbying act, approaches to influence the executive, Members of Parliament, which includes both Members of the House of Commons and the Senate and their staff, and the bureaucracy, be considered to be activities within the definition of lobbying.

I think that is an excellent recommendation. It lays out very thoroughly the process of lobbying which, I might add, has really taken on significant proportions in the last few years. When one looks carefully at the Ottawa phone book one finds various firms opening up. When one familiarizes oneself with the occupants of offices surrounding Parliament Hill, one can see that in the last handful of years, all sorts of agencies and groups have established lobbying offices. They are very upfront. It is an honourable process, whether it is the Canadian Bankers Association, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Manufacturers Association, or even provincial Governments which now have offices set up so that the

concerns of the Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, and so on, can be watched as the various Bills and policies move through the Government and through the House of Commons.

Obviously, there is now a real need not only to define what we mean by "lobbying", which has been done very well by the committee, but we must also recognize who the lobbyist is. What is a "lobbyist"? We now agree what "lobbying" is. Again, we can take advantage of the excellent work done by the committee. The committee recommended:

—that for the purpose of registration, lobbyist be defined generally to be anyone who for compensation engages in lobbying activities directed at the executive, bureaucracy, Members of the House of Commons, the Senate and their staff. More specifically it includes:

- (a) those who for compensation represent third party interests directly or indirectly to government including those representing foreign nationals or foreign governments.

It goes on to say it would also include:

- (b) employees or officers of non-government business organizations, non-profit organizations, volunteer groups, single interest volunteer groups and foreign nationals who for pay or other benefit perform duties which may from time to time include lobbying. The organization by which they are employed or with which they are associated should also be required to register.

It also includes:

- (c) those who initiate and those who are paid to organize mass mailing or advertising campaigns to disseminate material designed to influence government through public opinion.

I suppose what comes to mind are those full page advertisements one sees in the National Citizens Coalition attempting to mobilize public opinion to encourage the Government to move or not to move in certain directions. It also includes:

- (d) non-profit organizations, volunteer groups and single interest groups when they retain a paid lobbyist to represent their views to government;

Finally, it includes, and you will appreciate this, Mr. Speaker:

- (e) lawyers, accountants and other professionals when they represent clients in dealings with government primarily for the purpose of lobbying as defined in this Report.

Again, the committee lays out extremely clearly just what a "lobbyist" is. It lists the various categories in terms of fine tuning that definition. I think this is where we are going to run into the greatest difficulty. When the Government brings forward legislation, hopefully, at a very, very early time, the whole matter of registration becomes critical. The committee has recommended:

—that registered lobbyists be required to disclose:

- (a) their names; firm name, if applicable, and a contact person; addresses and telephone numbers;
- (b) names of clients and their place of business;
- (c) the issue or matter upon which the lobbying activity is to take place;

We recommend that lobbyists be prohibited from receiving compensation from clients which is contingent in any manner upon the outcome of the lobbying activity.

This is interesting because during committee hearings a number of witnesses thought there would be no problem in submitting their name for a registry but had some reluctance, however, about indicating who their clients were and they were