

*Supply*

are here for. We have to deal with these tough issues. We have got to do it.

I have had comments from my riding. I want to read a letter: "I am writing to you to thank you for the support you are giving Mrs. Rodriguez in her request to die. I have a prostate tumour which could put me in a position where I am not much use to anyone and suffer a great deal of pain. This is what happened to an older brother of mine. His was not an easy cross to bear".

These are real issues. These are family issues. Our families and our friends have had to deal with these issues. Medical technology allows people to hang on and on and they die in hospital surrounded by tubes and new equipment. People want to die with dignity. That is what the issue really is.

I want to quote Tom Harpur, writing in this weekend's *The Toronto Star*:

The truth is, Sue Rodriguez's fight to have doctor-assisted suicide made legal under certain specific, clear and out-in-the-open conditions is not just for her own sake but for the lives of all who may well one day find themselves in a similar situation. In any other field, those who endure loneliness, suffering and abuse for the sake of others are called heroes, heroines or saints. It's time we rallied behind her and recognized what this woman is really all about.

It is an issue for all of us. It is an issue we are going to have to deal with. It is an issue we are dealing with. It is a family issue. It is a life issue. It is the quality of life and the quality of death.

I will end the debate with a quote from Sue Rodriguez to this Parliament. She said:

Despite my losses, I do not want pity. All I ask of my fellow Canadians is understanding and compassion. Understanding that they too may some day be in a position similar to mine.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** It being 11.52 a.m. pursuant to Standing Order 93, the time provided for debate has expired.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

**Some hon. members:** Yea.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** All those opposed will please say nay.

**Some hon. members:** Nay.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** In my opinion the nays have it.

*And more than five members having risen:*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** By unanimous consent, the recorded division is deferred until six o'clock p.m. later today.

[*Translation*]

## SUSPENSION OF SITTING

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** It being 11.53 a.m., the sitting of the House is suspended until noon.

At 11.53 a.m. the sitting of the House was suspended.

## SITTING RESUMED

The House resumed at 12 p.m.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Today being the final allotted day for the supply period ending March 26, 1993, the House will proceed, as usual, to consideration of and concurrence in supply bills.

[*English*]

In view of recent practices, do hon. members agree that these bills be distributed now?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

## SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 81—THE ECONOMY

**Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua (York North)** moved:

That this House condemns the government for its policies that have stifled economic growth, destroyed Canadian jobs and exacerbated the recession.