

Government Orders

As soon as I have established when that can be done, I will announce to the House the release of the report and how it is going to be treated.

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to take this opportunity to put a question to the government House leader on House business.

With respect to the commitment that the government made some six years ago to amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act a commitment which has been reiterated in a couple of Speeches from the Throne, I would like to ask the government House leader if he can indicate to the House when the government intends to bring forward these long overdue amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act.

These are amendments which affect the physically and mentally disabled in the area of reasonable accommodation. They are amendments which affect the lesbian and gay community in the area of sexual orientation. When will the government finally move forward on these long overdue amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act?

Mr. Andre: This question period usually deals with the business for next week and it will not be next week.

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POINT OF ORDER

STATEMENT PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

Hon. William C. Winegard (Minister for Science): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to comment upon statements and remarks made earlier in this House by the member for Calgary Southwest.

Last evening, the Canadian Genetic Disease Network announced that Dr. Robert Korneluk of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, one of the network's 23 principal investigators, has isolated the genetic defect responsible for myotonic dystrophy.

This is one of a series of genetic discoveries in Canada. The last three have been made by members of this specific network, created in 1989, the network of Centres of Excellence.

In this case, the network provided \$450,000 to that research.

Mr. Speaker: I think all members would have no disagreement with what the hon. minister is saying and what the member for Calgary Southwest said earlier today and also what the member for Sault Ste. Marie said about the discovery and the scientist who made the discovery. My difficulty is procedural.

The hon. minister is getting very close to a minister's statement. If the House wishes to allow the minister to proceed, I would let him.

Mr Riis: Although it obviously is not a point of order, it is an important issue to which I think all sides would wish to make a comment. May I suggest as a way out that for tomorrow under Routine Proceedings, at the time of ministerial statements, the minister take some time and make a proper statement and that would allow others to make a response as well.

Mr. Berger: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the proposal that has just been made. Certainly our party would want to join in any such statement. We were not given any prior notice that this would be coming up at this particular time.

Mr. Pagtakhan: Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my strong voice for that approach. This is a non-partisan issue and I think all sides of the House must participate in the tribute and appreciation.

Mr. Winegard: I would be happy to do that except tomorrow at this time I will be speaking to members of the research community about this particular incident.

Mr. Speaker: As I indicated to the hon. minister, and he has certainly seen the response, there is a disposition in the House to extend congratulations from all members, obviously. If the minister cannot be here, he may want to make some other arrangement with another minister, but it really is a very appropriate circumstance for a minister's statement.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-32, an act to amend the Canada Assistance Plan, be read the third time and passed.