

Government Orders

act either as direct providers of consumer protection plans or as backup resources to industry-operated protection plans.

It goes on. It outlines the supervisory role that this agency would have. It does not propose that power be put in the hands of the minister. It involves the provinces because you have to harmonize the rules that govern trust companies that are incorporated provincially. They have to be harmonized.

This provides an opportunity and a vehicle to involve the provinces and to bring them within the ambit of the federal law. This does not allow the minister to exercise any special powers. We have a serious problem with that whole direction which we have seen in Bill C-83. It is pointing in the direction for the Bank Act, if that is the pattern, and it is pointing in the direction for insurance companies as well. We do not cotton to that idea very much. That is one strip-tease the minister can forget.

The minister talks about deregulating the financial institutions and reregulating them. That was the boast of the minister when he introduced Bill C-83. He is deregulating and reregulating them. Where is the power for the reregulation? The power for the reregulation is going to reside in a political minister, not in an agency as was recommended by the green paper in 1985.

Why was this proposal not incorporated into the changes affecting financial institutions? Why was it not? We are very concerned about the fact that we are getting into another recession. We remember the last recession and we remember the loosey-goosey that resulted in the Northland Bank and the Canadian Commercial Bank. We remember them very well.

We also remember that in the last dozen years 10 trust and loan companies have had to fall back on using deposit insurance. Now we have another trust company that is on the death watch. We want to put this kind of power in the hands of a minister?

I may as well touch on the other issue that concerns us very much. Here is a minister and a Conservative government that represents special interests in this country. Then we look at the recent appointments into the Senate. All they have appointed are members of the same club. That raises for me another important question as to whether this Parliament should be looking at any regulation with respect to financial institutions until we have had some conflict of interest rules that binds

members of Parliament and in particular binds the Senate.

An hon. member: Castonguay.

Mr. Rodriguez: I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that Canadians should quiver in their boots when we think about the potential for conflict of interest.

Who have we got over there? We have some of the most vitally interested people in the way financial institutions are regulated in this country.

We have this fellow Trevor Eyton. He is hooked in very directly to Royal Trustco and Edper Enterprises. We have Mr. Castonguay hooked into the Laurentian Group. We have Mr. Denino hooked into Cabot Trust. We have a whole host of them.

You can bet your bottom bitty that these are the people who are going to end up on the Senate finance and banking committee. That is the special interest.

We expect Canadians to believe that the rules governing financial institutions are going to be done in a most impartial manner. It is like thinking that Colonel Sanders is looking out for the social interests of the chickens. It never happens.

This is a serious concern. They are going to get plucked and tucked—I will stop right there. Initial consonants have never been my strong suit.

There should be no progress on any of this kind of this legislation until we have had a set of conflict of interest rules, which this government introduced. It has been sitting on the shelf. We should not be proceeding.

Another area that concerns me, and I heard the minister repeat it many times: The word is "globalization". That is the new word.

We have to get participants that are lean and mean, and also bigger at the same time.

Ms. Hunter: They look like they are fat and mean to me.

Mr. Rodriguez: The member says they look fat and mean.

That is what is going to happen.

I got the impression as I listened to the minister and watched the trend on Bill C-83 that the move to globalization of financial institutions is becoming more important than the interests of Canadians.