Private Members' Business

What we asked for is-

Mr. Robinson: Point of order.

Mr. Domm: Just let me finish. You have a habit of interrupting.

Mr. Robinson: This is not a point of order.

Mr. Domm: This is a point of order.

He has accused both the Liberal member of Parliament and myself of asking for a study. The Liberal member of Parliament asks that this bill be passed on tonight to the legislative committee to bring back the bill with whatever technical changes are needed. I did not ask for any study. The Liberal member did not ask for any study. The only member who is asking for any study is the NDP member who refuses to pass it today, send it to a legislative committee, and vote on it.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): The hon. member for Peterborough expressed an opinion that is subject to debate, and I again recognize the hon. member for Burnaby—Kingsway.

[English]

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, I trust that this will not be taken out of my time, just as the member for Peterborough received a similar assurance.

Parliament has studied this issue. There has been a unanimous report. What this member is doing is proposing to the people of Canada that we study an issue which has already been studied. That is exactly what it means when a bill is sent to committee. There will be more hearings, more witnesses and more reports. That is not acceptable to the people of this country.

Mr. Domm: Mr. Speaker, the member is clearly questioning the procedure of a private members' bill. when we vote on it at second reading it must go to a legislative committee, not for study, but for amendments and changes. This applies to every bill, whether it is government or private.

What he is doing is filibustering against a private members' bill and saying the government should do it. He is here as a private member with bills himself.

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member for Peterborough, but this is again a matter of opinion. I think we should get back to the main subject of this debate. I again recognize the hon. member for Burnaby—Kingsway.

[English]

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, I understand that the member for Peterborough is perhaps a little nervous in recognizing that by proposing this particular strategy, he is going against the wishes of the people of this country who want legislative action. They are looking for a government to provide some leadership in this issue.

I would like to challenge the member for Peterborough. His caucus meets, I believe, on Wednesday mornings. I suggest that the member for Peterborough raise this issue in his caucus and ask his colleague, the Minister of Justice, to bring a government bill before this House. I am quite prepared, on behalf of my colleagues, to make a commitment that if that bill which the Minister of Justice brings before this House reflects the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Justice and the Solicitor General, that bill will in fact receive the prompt attention of this Parliament.

What the member for Peterborough is doing is proposing yet another delay. This member knows that there has been a great sense of anger and outrage in this country with respect to what are perceived to be understandable flaws and weaknesses in this legislation, in the existing Criminal Code provisions.

I do not think that the people of Peterborough, the people of Calgary, the people of Red Deer or other Canadians would be very happy at the suggestion that having studied this legislation and having submitted a report to the Government of Canada, the Government of Canada is simply ignoring the recommendations of a parliamentary committee. That is exactly what it is doing.

Where is the Minister of Justice? Why has she not stood up in this House and said: "Yes, I have read the recommendations of the third report of the Standing Committee on Justice and the Solicitor General. I understand the concerns of Canadians from coast to coast about the extradition process and here is a bill." That is not what the Conservative government is doing. It is failing to provide any leadership whatsoever. I understand the frustration that the member for Peterborough feels with his own minister. It must be terribly frustrating because he cannot get his own government to