

investment of another \$200 million specifically to help those who are on social assistance, about 60,000 a year.

One of the remarkable things is the success rate in the SARC program. It is over 50 per cent. What that means is that one half of the clients of these programs are employed or in further training three months after the program. Fifty per cent in some things does not sound a lot. It was pretty good for me when I was going to school. I was delighted to get 50 per cent. Fifty per cent for all of us here is a marvellous number to get in an election, but I would suggest that in a program like this that addresses the real problems of people and that gives them opportunities in co-operation with the provinces we have seen real progress at 50 per cent.

We have also provided \$230 million of this training to help get unemployed people into the private sector. As a member said earlier, the business community in this country does not do its share. It does not do as much as it should be doing in terms of training. Some big companies do and, as usual, what you have is a very small number of companies doing a huge percentage of the training. We do not have the broad application. There must be more involvement. That is what this will do.

If we continue to say to people in the Atlantic provinces or in any other part of this country who need help that they must accept the program the way it is without any changes, people are going to say: "What's the point"?

What this government is doing in so many of its programs, but particularly in this one, is giving people choices. We are going to try different things in helping you to improve your situation. We must evolve a program like unemployment insurance. It must continue to move and to change because if we do not it will not serve any better those who need it. Quite clearly what we have here is a program that does make things better for people.

I am tempted to return to my sin of responding to my friend opposite. It is a trap and I am at the brink. I would just like to say a couple of things on the economic zones. The principle of variable entrance requirements came from our friends opposite. The principle that was based on residency came from my friends opposite. The princi-

ple that in areas of higher employment, there will not be the same benefits that are available to those people who live in areas of lower employment. You have got to draw the line somewhere.

Despite the condescending comments of one of my friends earlier, I have been around the precincts of this place for a long time, and I feel it sometimes. It has always been an argument that St. John's makes it worse for the Avalon Peninsula and St. John's in this case and only in this case makes it worse for the Avalon Peninsula.

My friend from Bonavista—Trinity—Conception will tell you that some of his constituents in areas of very serious problem were not getting the same break as other people in the province because of the city of St. John's. I do not want to say to the people in the city of St. John's and the few surrounding communities that are close by that it is too bad, that I am sorry but no, we are going to have to make it tougher for you. I do not want to have to do that. I do not want to have to do that in the case of equity.

We were talking about lines, about moving people around and about where they live. When you go below 11.5 per cent today you go from 10 weeks to qualify to 16 weeks, just like that. At least now you will know as you drop a percentage point there is a week. It is as simple as that and it is no different from what is there now except the swings are not as dramatic. The effect is not as devastating. It is more predictable. It is more reasonable. That is where some of the changes are.

For my friend opposite to stand up and go on about this track and that line is ludicrous. There have to be lines. I do not like there having to be lines, but if he would like St. John's to affect the whole of the province, maybe we can have one economic zone. I guess I would be happier; most of my constituents live in the city, but that would not be fair to the people of Bell Island. It would not be fair to the people of Avondale. It would not be fair to the people of Bacon Cove. We have to do things. We have to move. We have to be progressive to respond. That is what this legislation is all about.

The question before this House today is whether the other place will deal with a piece of legislation that the members of this House who were elected by the people