

innovations is the most critical factor. With our current system of compulsory licensing, we could not hope to attract these investments. Nor, frankly, could we hope to preserve the 22,000 jobs in this sector.

Bill C-91 moves us closer to the international competition. In fact, as you know, the innovative drug companies have already announced over \$650 million in new investments for Canadian locations. This means quality jobs, new plants, more basic research, more clinical work in hospitals and important new partnerships of industry with hospitals, research institutes, universities and private labs across the entire country.

In the past, such partnerships have led to discovery and/or development of at least 32 significant medicines in Canada. These include insulin, a rabies vaccine and the BCG vaccine for tuberculosis. And, contrary to some of the allegations around this table this week, since 1987 alone, 15 new drugs have been discovered here in Canada, including, for example, drugs for the treatment of the HIV virus, asthma and diabetes.

Bill C-91 will provide the necessary climate to allow the Canadian industry to continue to build on this impressive track record, ensuring that some of Canada's key discoveries in the field of medicine are commercialized in Canada, for sale to markets around the world.

This Bill is about seniors. This Bill is about children. This Bill is about developing medicines and treatments that will give all Canadians the quality of life they deserve. You have heard the powerful message of the pediatricians. They understand that creating economic prosperity in the pharmaceutical sector is part and parcel of a strong scientific foundation for the delivery of excellent medical care for our children and all citizens of Canada.

Some opponents of the Bill have expressed concern that this policy and the legislation disallow compulsory licences applied for but not issued before December 21, 1991, as well as those applied for since that date.

I want to set the record straight on this.

There was a public announcement on January 14, 1992 of the government's intention to eliminate compulsory licensing effective December 20, 1991, in line with the Dunkel Report of that date, effectively disallowing compulsory licensing for pharmaceutical products issued after that date. This was clearly indicated to all parties involved in this issue, including the generic manufacturers.