detaining of young persons. It is only in rare and specific exceptions where the safety of others, or the interests of that young person, can maybe help in any other setting.

I think it has been the unfortunate practice in many jurisdictions in Canada to detain youths, particularly those who are before the court waiting on applications to be raised to adult court, in facilities to detain adults. Often this is done on the basis, almost of a prejudgment, of the court decision that this child is a child who should be raised to adult court. Therefore, based on the fact that we have made that application, we now see fit to have the child detained in adult facilities.

This, of course, makes it clear that that is not possible.

The other parts of the bill try to set out the circumstances or considerations under which a judge will determine the place of custody of a young person once they have been dealt with by the court. It is set out that it may be in a place for youths, it could be in an adult correctional facility under provincial jurisdiction, or it could be in a federal penitentiary under federal jurisdiction.

One comment I would like to make refers to 2(g). It says that the court shall take into consideration availability and suitability of treatment.

This is where the government has totally fallen down because this is where the greatest lack of resources is. We do not have adequate resources for youths. We do not have them to provide adult offenders with the treatment and rehabilitation that is necessary. Without that, we are always trying to force that young offender into increased incarceration rather than into a situation that is for treatment, education, and other kinds of resources.

It is very commendable for the government to set this out in legislation. My concern, however, is that it has not provided the resources that really and truly give the judge the alternatives that he or she can look at to make that kind of a judgment: what is in the best interest of the child, the best treatment for this child and what is in the best interest of society.

I will end on those remarks, being conscious of the time.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Before I call it one o'clock, shall I put the question on Motion No. 4A and on Motion No. 7?

An hon. member: Mr. Speaker, I want to speak on Motion No. 4A.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Therefore, I will call it one o'clock p.m.

The House took recess at 1 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*English*]

THE CANADIAN HEARING SOCIETY

Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, a letter was sent to me today by The Canadian Hearing Society. On behalf of 1.6 million Canadians who are either visually or hearing impaired, they are asking questions. For example, a recent Canadian Human Rights Commission report stated that the basic telephone communication via TDD with federal departments was inadequate.

They gave Ottawa airport as an example. Ottawa airport claims to have a telecommunication device for the deaf, as it should, according to Transport Canada policy. However, no one has ever seen this device or been able to use it. The information booth claims it does not have one.

The Minister of Finance promised to make further tax deductions in 1992 towards making accessible buildings owned by landlords for the benefit of the deaf and hard of hearing. In 1991, only flashing fire alarms were recognized as deductible. What items will be included on the list in 1992?

As another example, Treasury Board does not have a policy supporting the training of public servants in American sign language. This is necessary as deaf persons face primarily attitudinal and communication barriers to employment in the federal service. A policy should be passed as soon as possible.

Finally, they are asking, what are the number of deaf and hard of hearing Canadians employed by the federal government and in what capacity: clerical, professional, management? How does this compare to the general population? They are calling on the government for action.