

Supply

Another example is in that very important area of making the transition from welfare to work. There is a self-sufficiency project in the lower mainland of British Columbia, a co-operative venture which provides earnings supplements to help single parents get off welfare and get back to work.

These are all practical working examples, not just airy-fairy hopes and dreams. This is why we know it will work in western Canada just as it works in all parts of the country. The door is open for the development of co-operative ventures with each and every province.

With the new employment insurance act this government has opened the way for individual provinces to work with the federal government to develop unique labour market programs which meet the needs of individual governments, regions and people. Because of this, I must disagree with the motion put forward by the hon. member for Mercier. It is my belief that contrary to that motion this government is doing everything—

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): I am sorry, the hon. member's time has expired.

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COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

HEALTH

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I think you would find unanimous consent for a couple of motions.

[Translation]

I move:

That members of the Standing Committee on Health be authorized to travel to hold a briefing session on Preventative Strategies for Healthy Children in North Gower, Ontario, on February 8 and 9, 1996, and that the necessary staff do accompany the Committee.

(Motion agreed to.)

[English]

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIV/AIDS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I move:

That the House, pursuant to Standing Order 119.1(1), authorize the Subcommittee on HIV/AIDS of the Standing Committee on Health to televise its meetings scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, Wednesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 14, 1995 in accordance with the guidelines pertaining to televising committee proceedings.

(Motion agreed to.)

RECOGNITION OF QUEBEC AS A DISTINCT SOCIETY

NOTICE OF CLOSURE MOTION

Hon. Herb Gray (Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Solicitor General of Canada, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I wish to give notice that with respect to the consideration of Motion No. 26 under Government Orders, Government Business, at the next sitting I shall move pursuant to Standing Order 57 that debate be not further adjourned.

* * *

[Translation]

SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY—UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REFORM

The House resumed consideration of the motion.

Mr. Philippe Paré (Louis-Hébert, BQ): Madam Speaker, in her speech, the hon. member for Saskatoon—Humboldt claimed that, generally speaking, Canadians were enthusiastic and appreciative as regards the reform proposed in the bill.

I can say that I heard of a lot of opinions to the contrary. Many people have opposed several aspects of this legislation.

The hon. member also says, and I agree with her on that issue, that some decisions had to be made to try to reduce, if not eliminate, the UI fund deficit. It is true that something had to be done sooner or later about that.

However, based on what principle of social equity does Bill C-96 lower the contribution of high income earners, while increasing that of those who hold precarious jobs, particularly part-time workers?

In the end, the deficit will be reduced at the expense of the poor, not the rich. I would appreciate it if the hon. member could comment on that principle, because I cannot figure it out.

[English]

Mrs. Sheridan: Madam Speaker, I do not disagree with the hon. member opposite that there are some discordant notes and most of them are being played from that region of the House.

As with any bill there will be debate across the country but the provisions of the bill responded to a need that committee members heard when they travelled across the country just over a year ago. They heard a need for reforms to the unemployment insurance fund and the act, not only to the underlying principles but to the way the service is delivered. This piece of legislation goes a long way to providing that service delivery.