

*Royal Assent*

makes no sense to impose what amounts to a tax on exports or manufactured goods."

That is what we have been saying on the Conservative side. That is what the finance minister has been saying. I find it rather disturbing that here is a major industrial sector across Canada, literally in every province, represented by a very large international union saying: "Get rid of the federal sales tax" but I have not heard a word, not a peep, from the NDP about the fact that one of their supporters is in favour of the elimination of that tax.

There are a whole series of other reasons why we should eliminate the tax. So far I have addressed comments from people who are not predominantly present in my riding. I do not think that the message of the diversity of people across Canada who agree with what we are doing is getting out. For example, we had appear before us Mr. Allen Hills of the Canadian Federation of Farm Equipment Dealers who stated: "A tax system that involves exceptions and exemptions, based on government definitions of who is and who is not, will quickly degenerate to the same situation we have today as we try to administer the current federal sales tax mess. That is part of the reason I say the current system is a mess or a nightmare."

He goes on rather extensively describing the problems of the existing federal sales tax. He also says that the worst thing we could do with the new goods and services tax is implement as many exemptions as presently exist under the federal sales tax.

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have been listening to the hon. member go through his speech. He mentioned the National Director of the United Steelworkers and read statements from Mr. Docquier with respect to the manufacturers' sales tax.

I thought maybe I had not got it right so I went to check on this matter. Mr. Docquier agrees with us that in fact the manufacturers' sales tax is unfair. He did not read into the record the conclusion of Mr. Docquier which is that he does not agree with this regressive, mish-mash tax that the government has put forward. Why did the member only quote part of the presenter's statement? Why not state the whole story, that he does

not agree with what the government has proposed? That is why we have proposed alternatives.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The hon. member will have 10 minutes left plus 10 minutes questions and comments the next time the bill comes up.

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**MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed the following bills without amendment: Bill C-4, an Act to amend the Energy Supplies Emergency Act and to amend the Access to Information Act in consequence thereof; Bill C-12, an Act respecting Museums; Bill C-13, an Act to authorize the divestiture of Nordion International and Theratronics International Limited; and Bill C-31, an Act to amend the Governor General's Act.

Also, I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed Bill C-11, an Act to restructure the Eastern Canadian Synod of the Lutheran Church in America under the name of Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada to which the concurrence of this House is desired.

**THE ROYAL ASSENT**

[English]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received as follows:

Rideau Hall

Ottawa

January 30, 1990

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable John Sopinka, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 30th day of January, 1990, at 5 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain Bills.

Yours sincerely,  
Jean M. Sévigny  
Deputy Secretary, Operations