

Time Allocation

further the procurement process in Supply and Services in such a way that Canadians, and particularly Canadian businesses and suppliers, will know ahead of time of the process within Supply and Services. As soon as this process is dealt with, the announcement will be made in due course.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION ACT

NOTICE OF ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER THIRD READING
STAGE OF BILL C-113

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, I wish to indicate that since an agreement could not be reached under the provisions of Standing Orders 115 and 116 with respect to an allocation of time for the third reading of Bill C-113, I therefore, under the provisions of Standing Order 117, give notice of my intention to move a time allocation motion at the next sitting of the House for the purpose of allocating a specified number of days or hours for the consideration and disposal of the third reading stage of the said Bill.

To be fair, I want to point out that this filibuster against western Canada is being carried out by the NDP and not by the Liberals. We had hoped to send the western diversification Bill to the Senate today for speedy passage. Under those circumstances, we will now be calling Bill C-89, an Act to compensate victims of crime.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, I want to make it perfectly clear that after seven hours of debate at third reading stage, I feel we are not prolonging debate. We have two or three more speakers and are quite prepared to wrap this up expeditiously. I do not think it is necessary for the Government to prolong the debate on western diversification by having time allocation and a portion of the day set aside for discussion of that. I would like to think that we could perhaps wrap this up later today and get on with the other business of the House.

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I was consulted by the Government House Leader. I told him we had no speakers and were willing to have the vote now and that we would support the legislation. I am happy that he brought to the attention of the House the fact that indeed we are not obstructing this Bill.

I find it somewhat unusual, however, that the Minister would invoke that Standing Order, because for my part I think there is co-operation on all sides.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in this session of Parliament and in the last session of Parliament, the only Bill that took more time at third reading was Bill C-22, the amendments to the Patent Act. I do not understand, nor do the rest of my

colleagues, why the New Democratic Party is blocking this legislation which will benefit western Canada.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Perhaps while the House deals with Bill C-89, the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) and the Minister of State (Mr. Lewis) could get together.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I think what concerns us and why we felt it appropriate to have some debate was that after the Government cut out \$3 billion annually from the regional development programs, it is important that the initiative on the diversification of the western economy receive thorough debate in order to make it the best piece of legislation possible. That is what we are committed to and that is what we want to see done. That is why I say that we should wrap this up expeditiously later on today so that we may get on with other important pieces of legislation.

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[*Translation*]

CRIMINAL CODE

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada) moved that Bill C-89, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (victims of crime), be read the third time and passed.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is once again an honour to rise in this House to consider legislation which addresses the needs of those Canadians who are often the forgotten persons in our criminal justice system—victims of crime.

The legislative proposals presented in Bill C-89 represent concrete measures sought by and on behalf of crime victims. They will enhance the capacity of the criminal justice system to fairly respond to the special circumstances of victims of crime.

[*English*]

Since second reading of this Bill, I am pleased to advise the Members of the House that, in furtherance of the spirit of federal-provincial co-operation, a statement of basic principles of justice for victims of crime which will serve to promote access to justice, fair treatment and provision of assistance to victims of crime has been adopted by federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for criminal justice.

The legislative committee reviewing Bill C-89 has now considered these proposals and presented its report to the House. I would like to thank the members of the committee for the due diligence and utmost dispatch they have displayed in reviewing this important piece of legislation.

In summary, the amendments to the Criminal Code presented in the Bill will create a victim fine surcharge, will allow input by the victim at the time of sentencing through the