Government Orders

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon, members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Call in the members.

The House divided on the motion, which was negatived on the following division:

(Division No. 294)

YEAS

Members

Axworthy (Saskatoon—Clark's Crossing) Gardiner Robinson Butland Riis Rodriguez Whittaker – 8

NAYS

Members

Andre Bélair

Tremblay (Lotbinière)

Anderson
Assad
Bouchard (Roberval)
Champagne (Champlain)
Cooper
Danis
Fee
Fontaine
Fretz
Halliday
Johnson
MacAulay
MacDougall (Timiskaming)

Mills Rideout Thacker Browes
Comuzzi
Côté
Dingwall
Flis
Fontana
Gauthier
Hawkes
Joncas
MacDonald (Dartmouth)
McDougall (St. Paul's)
Pagtakhan

Venne Vincent
Wappel Weiner
Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek—Assiniboia)—37

• (1650)
[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I declare the motion lost.

[English]

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to participate in the debate today. I just wish I would have had a little more time to get my information together.

By bringing this bill forward the government has shown the same old attitude. It will deal with the fishermen of Canada only when it is good and ready, not when its actions are needed. It is their way or no way.

As a member of this House I have asked the Minister of Fisheries and his predecessor when we could expect an aid package for the fishermen of Atlantic Canada. The fishermen were suffering because of federal mismanagement of the fisheries. The minister knew of the situation. Still he waited and waited while the fishermen continued to suffer.

After six or seven months of questioning in the House and protests in the streets of Atlantic Canada, the minister finally decided to act. When the fisheries aid package was announced in May there was a lot of smoke and mirrors but not a lot of new money or new ideas on how to solve the fisheries crisis.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans failed to address some of the serious problems facing the Atlantic Canadian fishery. The problem of foreign overfishing was not addressed in the minister's band-aid package and it is not properly addressed in Bill C-74.

Overfishing by foreign fleets on the nose and tail of the Grand Banks is a serious problem. The federal government's inaction is causing the stocks to be destroyed. One of the recommendations of the Harris Panel on the Northern Cod was:

That Canada should seek international agreement to permit its management of all fish stocks—and that failing achievement of this objective, Canada should take unilateral action to acquire management rights in accordance with the provisions of the Law of the Sea Convention.

Why was this recommendation not acted upon? When is the government going to wake up and realize the damage that is being done by foreign fleets?