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farmers in drought areas who will have little or no crop this year. The per bushel price guarantee under crop insurance is well below market. At the same time higher prices will likely preclude another Canada Special Grains Program. Therefore, some assistance is needed to bridge the shortfall.

I urge the Federal-Provincial Drought Committee to strongly consider utilizing crop insurance as the vehicle to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of any possible drought assistance to grain and oilseed producers.

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TAX REFORM

RETIREMENT SAVINGS—DRAFT LEGISLATION

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, on March 28, 1988, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) released "Draft Legislation—Retirement Savings". You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of State for Finance (Mr. Hockin) recently said we can have either a fair or a simple tax system, not both. Indeed, the legislation on retirement savings is not simple.

The Board of Trade of Metropolitan Toronto has stated that the Department of Finance is adding complexity and confusion. One feature of the new system will be that anyone who is covered by a pension plan, who is also able to contribute to an RRSP, will have to rely on Revenue Canada for information about how much can be deducted each year for an RRSP contribution. This is because the new system is so complex that only actuaries will be able to quantify the annual entitlement.

We await the tabling of the Bill, which may now be delayed until after an election. Meanwhile we have pension plan administrators and pension contributors around the country readying themselves for the implementation of nightmarish new rules that may not even be passed into law in the foreseeable future.

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[Translation]

FARM CREDIT CORPORATION

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) has just given the Farm Credit Corporation \$400 million in assistance that will help restore its finances; this makes clear that he supports this organization. Furthermore, the Minister announced that additional funds would be invested in the FCC over the next three years.

Last December, the Prime Minister gave \$100 million to wipe out the FCC's losses, in addition to the other funds given

so that it could fully participate in the farm debt review process.

Over the last four years, the Government has taken measures worth nearly \$10 billion for the food and agriculture sector.

This shows once again that the Conservative Government cares about Canadian agriculture. These achievements in agriculture are unequaled and are intended to ensure that farmers have all the tools they need to prosper.

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[English]

WESTERN DIVERSIFICATION FUND

GRANT MADE TO COBRA ENTERPRISES LIMITED

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, the Western Diversification Program has been announced and re-announced on an almost daily basis by Conservatives in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia as a fund wholly and solely for western Canada, but it is our tax dollars provided to projects which will diversify our western economy.

We learn this month that to Conservatives "western" means Ontario and "diversification" means moving industry from the West to Ontario. This Conservative Government in Ottawa has chosen to give \$750,000 from the Western Diversification Fund to Cobra Enterprises Limited which moved from Vancouver to Markham, Ontario, two months ago. This company makes anti-theft alarms for automobiles. Too bad there is not a similar alarm attached to the Western Diversification Fund.

● (1410)

The next time the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) crows about the Western Diversification Fund, those of us who live in the West will remember Cobra. We might even drive by the empty Cobra headquarters in Vancouver and remember that with the Conservatives at the till the Western Diversification Fund is to help steal western jobs and businesses to the east.

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TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—SUPPORT OF SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, I was interested to read the July-August issue of *Small Business*. The magazine features free trade. Its editorials illustrate that Canada's business community overwhelmingly gives the green light to the free trade agreement.