

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2008

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker ruled on a point of order raised by the Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Dunderdale) on April 17th concerning comments made on an Open Line show and an alleged violation of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*.

The Speaker ruled that there was no point of order.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate Jonathan Earle and the ACE Memorial team on placing second at the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) World Cup.

The Member for Grand Bank (Mr. King) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Basil Collier of Fortune.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate the Gideons Conception Bay Camp, on their good work.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate the Adventure 50+ Club in Paradise on celebrating their 21st anniversary.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) made a Statement to recognize the efforts of the Bay Bulls to Bauline Regional Games Committee in hosting the first ever Regional Games held last summer.

The Member for Port au Port (Mr. Cornect) made a Statement to congratulate Linda Collier, the 2007 recipient of the Susie Day Volunteer-Of-The-Year Award.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Williams) made a Statement to inform the House that Government would be eliminating the 15% retail sales tax on insurance premiums.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Conservation (Ms. Johnson) made a Statement to acknowledge April 22nd as Earth Day.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Rideout) moved, by leave, that the following Members comprise the Standing Orders Committee:

- (a) The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald)
- (b) The Member for Baie Verte – Springdale (Mr. Rideout)
- (c) The Member for Burgeo – LaPoile (Mr. Parsons)

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- (d) The Member for Signal Hill – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael)
- (e) The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent)

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

The Member for Burgeo – LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS this Province has seen a huge increase in offshore oil revenue as a result of increased oil prices;

AND WHEREAS many people, especially those on fixed incomes, are suffering the consequences of the increases in fuel prices;

AND WHEREAS this Province has the highest tax on gasoline in the country and this puts undue hardship on consumers and makes it more difficult for businesses in this Province to compete;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House of Assembly urges Government to reduce the tax on gasoline in this Province”.

Pursuant to notice and on motion the following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

A Bill “An Act To Amend The Labour Relations Act” (Bill No. 23);

A Bill “An Act To Amend The Law Society Act, 1999” (Bill No. 22);

A Bill “An Act To Amend The Mental Health Care And Treatment Act” (Bill No. 24).

On motion it was ordered that the above-noted Bills be read a second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists” (Bill No. 1) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be now read a second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists” (Bill No. 1) was read a second

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time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be now referred to a Committee of the Whole House.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Rideout) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Osborne took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

The Committee considered and passed the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists" (Bill No. 1).

On motion the Committee rose.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (Mr. Osborne) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists" (Bill No. 1) without amendment,

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend the Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists" (Bill No. 1) be now read a third time by leave..

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists" (Bill No. 1) was read a third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his Assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act Respecting Embalmers And Funeral Directors" (Bill No. 11) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 11 be now read a second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists" (Bill No. 11) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 11 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

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It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 23rd at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.