

Wednesday, November 22nd, 2017

The House met at 10:00 o'clock in the morning pursuant to adjournment.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "Status Of The Artist Act" (Bill No. 22) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his Assent.

Pursuant to notice and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Liquor Corporation Act" (Bill No. 23) was introduced and read the first time and on motion it was ordered the said Bill be read the second time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled "Prescription Monitoring Act" (Bill No. 25).

The Speaker left the Chair.

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

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (Mr. Warr) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had made some progress and ask leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Order 9(1)(b) the sitting was suspended at 12:30 p.m. The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Member for Baie Verte – Green Bay (Mr. Warr) made a Statement to congratulate David Hayashida who was named NL Tourism Ambassador of the Year.

The Member for Windsor Lake (Ms. Bennett) made a Statement to recognize and thank Mr. Bruce Templeton for his contribution to his community as a volunteer.

The Member for Virginia Waters – Pleasantville (Mr. Davis) made a Statement to honour the Vanier Elementary Garden Club.

The Member for Fogo Island – Cape Freels (Mr. Bragg) made a Statement to celebrate the life and story of Terry Gill, who has overcome many challenges and recognize him for his contribution to his community as a volunteer.

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The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) made a Statement to congratulate the organizers, volunteers and participants for the success of the Fourth Annual Strides Kitchen Party in support of Daffodil Place.

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) made a Statement to recognize Ethan Hunt, who has overcome many challenges, for his positive attitude and for his contribution to his community as a volunteer.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice and Public Safety (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize Restorative Justice Week.

The Honourable the Minister Responsible for The Status of Women (Ms. Coady) made a Statement to congratulate the Women in Resource Development Corporation on the occasion of their 20th anniversary.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Ms. Rogers) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to not impose a provincial sales tax on books.

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to support new entrants into the farming and agrifoods industries.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to perform brush cutting on the Witless Bay Line for safety reasons.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil):

“BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House urges the Government to amend the School Bus Transportation Policies to cover the transportation to and from school of pupils who reside within 1.6 kilometres of that school where those pupils are Primary or Elementary students and where those pupils are Secondary students whose safety may be jeopardized by the failure to provide them with school busing”.

During the debate the Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Kirby) moved the following amendment:

“That the word “cover” be replaced with “ensure that school district courtesy seating policies prioritize”

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and that the words “and where those pupils are Secondary students whose safety may be jeopardized by the failure to provide them with school busing” be replaced with “students with disabilities and students who would otherwise not have a safe walking route to school”.

The Speaker (Mr. Warr) suspended the proceedings at 3:25 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker (Mr. Reid) resumed the Chair at 3:45 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled the amendment in order.

Debate continued on the amendment and the Resolution itself.

The Speaker put the question on the amendment.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Andrew Parsons, Ms. Coady, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Crocker, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Mitchelmore, Mr. Warr, Mr. Bernard Davis, Ms. Gambin-Walsh, Mr. Edmunds, Ms. Dempster, Mr. Letto, Mr. Browne, Mr. Bragg, Ms. Haley, Mr. Derek Bennett, Ms. Cathy Bennett, Mr. Finn, Ms. Parsley, Mr. King, Mr. Holloway.

Against: Mr. Paul Davis, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Brazil, Ms. Perry, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Petten, Ms. Michael, Mr. Lane.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution as amended.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Andrew Parsons, Ms. Coady, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Crocker, Mr. Osborne, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Mitchelmore, Mr. Warr, Mr. Bernard Davis, Ms. Gambin-Walsh, Mr. Edmunds, Ms. Dempster, Mr. Letto, Mr. Browne, Mr. Bragg, Ms. Haley, Mr. Derek Bennett, Ms. Cathy Bennett, Mr. Finn, Mr. Reid, Ms. Parsley, Mr. King, Mr. Holloway.

Against: Mr. Paul Davis, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Brazil, Ms. Perry, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Petten, Ms. Michael, Mr. Lane.

The Speaker declared the Resolution carried as amended.

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The Speaker then adjourned the House until Thursday at 1:30 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 9.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.