

Wednesday, May 2nd, 2018

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

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Pension Benefits Act, 1997" (Bill No. 5).

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 "An Act To Amend The Pension Benefits Act, 1997" (Bill No. 5).

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 House (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 passed the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Pension Benefits Act, 1997" (Bill No. 5) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 5 be read the third time on tomorrow.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Ms. Gambin-Walsh) tabled a document entitled Jurisdictional Scan relating to designated pension plans.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following motion standing in the name of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons):

"That this House meet at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 3rd, 2018."

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

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the motion to concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

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.

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The Member for Burin – Grand Bank (Ms. Haley) made a Statement to thank Zita Kavanagh and the Avalon Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society for their efforts in support of the work of finding a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.

The Member for Bonavista (Mr. King) made a Statement to congratulate the CLB Trinity – Conception Battalion on their successful Spring Parade and church service.

The Member Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Sarah and Nicole Power for the success they have achieved in their acting careers.

The Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) made a Statement to congratulate Sarah Lewis, who has been awarded the Lester B. Pearson Scholarship, for her academic achievements.

The Honourable the Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development (Ms. Dempster) made a Statement to congratulate Katarina Roxon and Marie Ryan on being invested into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Hawkins) made a Statement to recognize steps being taken in response to the recommendations of the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Edmunds) presented the Report of the Government Services Committee.

The Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to take steps to put in place a plan for a gradual transition to a universal, public child care and after-school care program.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Lester) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to reinstate the Adult Dental Program to cover low-income individuals and families.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Petten) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to eliminate the 1.6 km policy for all Elementary Schools in the Province and in Junior and Senior High Schools where safety is a primary concern.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following motion standing in the name of the Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry):

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“BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House support the introduction of a legislature-specific harassment policy, similar in principle to the policy in effect in the Nova Scotia provincial legislature, where elected representatives and their staff are held responsible for inappropriate conduct;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House, through the introduction of a legislature-specific harassment policy, recognize all forms of harassment including bullying, cyber-bullying and intimidation of all forms;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House develop this legislature-specific harassment policy through the Privileges and Elections Committee of this House in consultation with all Members and employees of the House and with independent groups who have experience and expertise in handling harassment complaints”.

Debate continued and concluded on the Resolution.

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

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

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.