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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Eugene McGinley

Thursday, March 1, 2007

**First Session of the 56th Legislative Assembly
Fredericton, New Brunswick**

Thursday, March 1, 2007.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker interrupted oral question period to remind Members of the 60-second time limit on questions and answers during this item of routine proceedings.

Hon. Mr. Jamieson, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading and the time reserved for Private Members' Motions, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to take into consideration Bills 33, 2, 6, 22, 34, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 3; following which, the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill 17.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Jamieson, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, March 2, 2007, it stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at 2 o'clock p.m.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.*

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Harmonized Sales Tax Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Motions 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 22 were, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 24, Mr. Holder, on behalf of Mr. Betts, seconded by Mr. Holder, moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS tens of thousands of New Brunswickers live in rental accommodations; and

WHEREAS those New Brunswickers who live in municipalities and own their own homes enjoy an exemption from provincial property tax; and

WHEREAS rental properties located in municipalities are charged both municipal and provincial property taxes; and

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers believe that this creates an unfair tax burden on those who live in rental accommodations; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly call upon the government to phase out the double taxation of rental properties over a three-year period.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. R. Boudreau, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Hon. V. Boudreau, seconded by Hon. Mr. Byrne, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 24 be amended by:

After the third whereas clause, add:

“Whereas both party leaders during the last election campaign expressed doubts about the affordability of phasing out the double taxation of rental properties and neither party platform endorsed it, and”

In the resolution clause, delete all words after Legislative Assembly and add:

“supports the Government’s review of the policy on taxation of rental properties while ensuring any changes do not cause deficits or cuts to social programs and ensure that cost savings are passed on to tenants.”

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Kenny, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Steeves, seconded by Mr. Olscamp, moved the following sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 24 be amended by:

deleting the words “both party leaders” and the word “campaign” in the whereas clause and by adding after the word “election” the words “the Liberal Party”.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed sub-amendment and a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended and the question being put, the sub-amendment was defeated.

And the question being put, the amendment was carried.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 24 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS tens of thousands of New Brunswickers live in rental accommodations; and

WHEREAS those New Brunswickers who live in municipalities and own their own homes enjoy an exemption from provincial property tax; and

WHEREAS rental properties located in municipalities are charged both municipal and provincial property taxes; and

WHEREAS both party leaders during the last election campaign expressed doubts about the affordability of phasing out the double taxation of rental properties and neither party platform endorsed it, and

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers believe that this creates an unfair tax burden on those who live in rental accommodations; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly supports the Government's review of the policy on taxation of rental properties while ensuring any changes do not cause deficits or cuts to social programs and ensure that cost savings are passed on to tenants.

And the question being put, Motion 24 as amended was carried.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Mr. R. Boudreau in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. R. Boudreau, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed that he report the following Bills as agreed to:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Parks Act.*

Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.