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Journals
(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

Thursday, March 11, 2010

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

Thursday, March 11, 2010.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Burke, Member for Fredericton-Nashwaaksis, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Fredericton and surrounding areas urging the government to immediately provide funding for the Health Canada approved medication Revlimid, a treatment for multiple myeloma. (Petition 227)

Ms. Dubé, Member for Edmundston—Saint-Basile, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Saint-Basile, Edmundston, Saint-Jacques and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 228)

Mr. C. LeBlanc, Member for Dieppe Centre-Lewisville, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Salisbury, Petitcodiac, Moncton, Fredericton, Sackville and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 229)

Hon. Mr. Lamrock rose on a point of order and submitted that the *sub judice* convention would prohibit consideration of Motion 49. The Minister cited Standing Rule 49(b) and para. 505 of *Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules & Forms*, 6th edition and submitted that the subject matter of the motion, which directs the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to meet immediately and to review all transactions between the province of New Brunswick and the Atcon group of companies, is the subject of a civil proceeding, reference to which would create a real and substantial danger of prejudice to the participants, one of whom he submitted, is the taxpayers of New Brunswick.

The Minister further submitted that Motion 49 limits the discretion of the Public Accounts Committee to withhold consideration of certain information that may potentially expose taxpayers to liability.

Mr. Robichaud also spoke on the point of order.

Mr. Speaker set aside consideration of Motion 49 and took the matter under advisement.

Mr. Speaker advised the House that, in accordance with the Notice of Opposition Members' Business, the House would proceed with second reading of Bill 44.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Ambulance Services Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

And after some further time, Ms. Lavoie took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some time, Mr. Fraser resumed the chair.

And after some further time, the debate being ended and the question being put, the motion for second reading of Bill 44 was defeated.

Debate resumed on Motion 29, moved by Mr. Fitch, seconded by Mr. Alward, as follows:

WHEREAS the province has indicated through the current 2010-2011 budget that the projected date in which the province will return to a balanced budget has been pushed back until the 2014-2015 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS the current budget projects that revenue for the province will increase by 10.7% from the current fiscal year until the 2014-2015 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS expenditures are slated to increase by only 1% over the same period;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide to this House detailed financial forecasts and analysis from the Department of Finance or any outside source that supports the projections and ability of government to keep spending far below historic levels of inflation from the current year until the projected 2015 return to a balanced budget.

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

That Motion 29 be amended by:

AMENDMENT

In the resolution clause, after the word “government” in the first instance, insert “to continue” and replace “detailed” with “updated” and delete all words after “supports” and replace with “the multi-year plan to return to balanced budgets.”

And the question being put on the amendment, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 29 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the province has indicated through the current 2010-2011 budget that the projected date in which the province will return to a balanced budget has been pushed back until the 2014-2015 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS the current budget projects that revenue for the province will increase by 10.7% from the current fiscal year until the 2014-2015 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS expenditures are slated to increase by only 1% over the same period;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government to continue to provide to this House updated financial forecasts and analysis from the Department of Finance or any outside source that supports the multi-year plan to return to balanced budgets.

And the question being put, Motion 29 as amended was carried.

And then, 5.14 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

The following document having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, was deemed laid upon the Table of the House, pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Response to Petition No. 214

March 10, 2010