



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 44

SECOND SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Mr. FAURSCHOU, Bill (No. 235) – The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les divulgations faites dans l'intérêt public (protection des divulgateurs d'actes répréhensibles), was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. MAGUIRE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider taking serious action to fill the nursing vacancies at personal care homes in the Town of Virden and to consider reopening the beds that have been closed as a result of this nursing shortage and to consider prioritizing the needs of those seniors that have been moved out of their community by committing to move those individuals back into Virden as soon as beds become available. (D. Vock, J. Droper, T. Kolosky and others)

Mrs. DRIEDGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister of Family Services and Housing to consider addressing the shortage of Early Childhood Educators by enabling child care centres to provide competitive wages and benefits; and to consider adequately planning for the future child care needs of growing communities, and to consider making the development of a sustainable and accessible child care system a priority; and to consider the development of a governance body that would provide direction and support to the volunteer boards of child care centres and to consider the development of regionalized central wait lists for child care; and to encourage all Members of the Legislative Assembly to consider becoming more closely involved with the operations of the licensed daycare facilities in their constituencies. (H. Albertson, M. Tia, R. Vezean and others)

Mr. DYCK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to strongly consider giving priority for funding to develop and staff a new 100 bed long-term-care facility so that clients are not exposed to unsafe conditions and so that Boundary Trails Health Centre beds remain available for acute care patients instead of waiting placement clients. (L. Unrau, M. Enns, T. Enns and others)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mrs. STEFANSON, Ms. HOWARD, Mrs. TAILLIEU, Mr. JENNISSEN and Hon. Mr. GERRARD made Members' Statements.

Prior to Grievances, Mr. LAMOUREUX rose on a Matter of Urgent Public Importance and moved:

THAT in accordance with Rule 36(1), the ordinary business of the House be set aside to discuss a Matter of Urgent Public Importance, namely, the current crisis that is taking place in the small northern community of Leaf Rapids in the Province of Manitoba, where uncontrollable crime and lack of safety has created a great deal of concern for the Mayor, who is contemplating issuing a state of emergency.

And Mr. LAMOUREUX, Mrs. ROWAT and Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK having spoken to the urgency of the motion,

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker ruled as follows:

I thank the Honourable Members for their advice to the Chair on whether the motion proposed by the Honourable Member for Inkster should be debated today. The notice required by Rule 36(1) was provided. Under our Rules and Practices, the subject matter requiring urgent consideration must be so pressing that the public interest will suffer if the matter is not given immediate attention. There must also be no other reasonable opportunities to raise the matter.

I have listened very carefully to the arguments put forward, however I was not persuaded that the ordinary business of the House should be set aside to deal with this issue today. Although this is an issue that some members do have a concern about, I do not believe that the public interest will be harmed if the business of the House is not set aside to debate the motion today.

Additionally, I would like to note that there are other avenues for Members to raise this issue, which include questions in Question Period, Members Statements', Grievances, and questions raised during the concurrence process when consideration of concurrence takes place.

Therefore, with the greatest of respect, I must rule that this matter does not meet the criteria set by our Rules and Precedents and I rule the motion out of order as a Matter of Urgent Public Importance.

The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS:

THAT Bill (No. 17) – The Environment Amendment Act (Permanent Ban on Building or Expanding Hog Facilities)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'environnement (interdiction permanente visant la construction ou l'agrandissement d'installations réservées aux porcs), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. GOERTZEN and DERKACH, Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Messrs. PEDERSEN and FAURSCHOU having spoken,

And Mr. GRAYDON speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Thursday, May 22, 2008.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.