

Friday, January 11, 2002.

*9.30 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Green, seconded by Hon. P. Robichaud:

RESOLVED, THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 26, 2002, at 2.30 o'clock p.m. provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

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Hon. Mr. Green, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Mesheau, gave Notice of Motion 51 that on Tuesday, March 26, 2002, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

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It was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the notice requirement for Motion 51 (Budget Motion) to be proposed for Tuesday, March 26, 2002.

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With leave of the House to dispense with notice, Hon. Mr. Green, seconded by Hon. Mr. Lord, moved (Motion 52):

WHEREAS increases are being experienced in private passenger automobile insurance rates by New Brunswick consumers;

AND WHEREAS choice and availability of private passenger automobile insurance may be restricted for some New Brunswick consumers;

AND WHEREAS some other provincial jurisdictions that are currently experiencing increases in automobile insurance rates and restrictions in the availability of automobile insurance are undertaking studies to determine if changes are warranted to their current automobile insurance regimes;

AND WHEREAS government believes that it is essential that New Brunswick consumers, consumer associations, insurers, regulatory agencies and professional associations have an opportunity to make their views, concerns and proposals for potential improvements regarding private passenger automobile insurance known to this House

AND WHEREAS government wishes to insure that any existing deficiencies in the current regulatory regime for private passenger automobile insurance are properly identified prior to identifying proposals for legislative reform;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House appoint a Select Committee on Private Passenger Automobile Insurance. This Select Committee will be charged with the responsibility of inquiring into and reporting on the status of private passenger automobile insurance availability and pricing in New Brunswick and to make recommendations regarding what legislative or regulatory changes may be considered by government to improve upon the current system and to specifically address the following matters, among others:

- the forms and effectiveness of automobile insurance regimes in other Canadian jurisdictions
- the practicability, effectiveness and desirability of introducing any system of “no-fault” automobile insurance in New Brunswick
- whether there are improvements that may be made to the current tort-based system
- whether any changes are warranted to the present territorial rating regime for automobile insurance
- whether any changes are warranted to the role of the Public Utilities Board in the regulation of automobile insurance rates

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Select Committee report to the House by July 15, 2002. During a period when the Legislative Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, said report may be released by depositing a copy with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and upon the resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chairperson shall present the report to the Legislative Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Select Committee be comprised of Mr. Stiles, Mr. Dubé, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Holder, Mr. Forbes, Ms. Keddy, Mr. Kinney, Mr. Alward, Mr. McGraw, Mr. Richard, Mr. S. Graham, Mr. Lee and Ms. Weir.

And the question being put, Motion 52 was resolved in the affirmative.

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Hon. Mr. Green, the Government House Leader, announced that the Royal Assent ceremony would take place following the third reading of Bills.

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The Order being read for third reading of Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 19 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*, was read a third time.

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The Order being read for third reading of Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 21 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, was read a third time.

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The Order being read that Bills 19 and 21 do now pass, the motion was carried in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

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Hon. Mr. Betts	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Steeves
Hon. Mr. Green	Mr. Cosman	Mr. Laforest
Hon. Mr. Mockler	Mr. Carr	Mr. Huntjens
Hon. E. Robichaud	Mr. Jordan	Mr. Savoie
Mr. Sherwood	Mr. Malley	Mr. Ashfield
Hon. Mr. McFarlane	Mr. Stiles	Mr. Bernard
Hon. Mrs. Jardine	Mr. MacDonald	Mr. MacKenzie
Hon. Mr. Volpé	Mr. Forbes	Mr. Alward
Hon. Mr. Weston	Mr. Holder	Mr. Moore
Hon. Mrs. MacAlpine	Mr. Kinney	Mr. Williams
Mr. J. Betts	Mr. McGraw	

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Mr. Richard	Mr. Haché	Mr. S. Graham
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Ordered that Bills 19 and 21 do pass.

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Her Honour, the Administrator, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 17, *Regional Health Authorities Act*.

Bill 18, *An Act Respecting the Regional Health Authorities Act*.

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Electric Power Act*.

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

*It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.*

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Speaker addressed the House thanking all staff and Members of the Legislative Assembly for their diligence and effort during the session.

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And then, 1 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.