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Daily sitting 35

Thursday, May 11, 2023

*10 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. Green,

Bill 53, *An Act Respecting the New Brunswick Housing Corporation.*

Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act.*

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*

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Hon. Mr. G. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, May 12, 2023, Bills 53, 54 and 55 would be called for second reading.

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

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, May 19, 2023, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

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Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 39, 40, 42, 45, 46 and 48 be called for second reading until noon; following which the House would recess until 2.30 p.m., at which time Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

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The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 29, *Financial Advisors and Financial Planners Title Protection Act.*

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

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Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 39, *An Act Respecting the Regional Health Authorities*, be now read a second time.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allotted for second reading had expired.

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At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.30 p.m. the House resumed.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 52, *Human Organ and Tissue Donation Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 52 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 52, *Human Organ and Tissue Donation Act*, was read a second time.

On motion of Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.2(6) Bill 52, *Human Organ and Tissue Donation Act*, be referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 19, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

WHEREAS, as of the end of November 2021, there have been 609 deaths in New Brunswick from COVID-19, with additional deaths being reported each week;

WHEREAS, in addition to COVID-19, Respiratory Syncytial Virus infections in New Brunswick are up 800% over the previous year;

WHEREAS, unlike in some other provinces, RSV infections are not monitored or communicated to the public as a reportable disease under the *Public Health Act*;

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the public to provide up-to-date information and public advice on viral infections and the best means to prevent widespread infection;

WHEREAS there do not appear to be established criteria that would dictate when tracking and reporting of viruses and other illnesses should occur;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to amend the *Public Health Act* and regulations to include RSV as a notifiable disease;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that the Office of Public Health provides regular public updates, advice, and recommendations to keep New Brunswickers safe, and releases a comprehensive public health strategy to prevent and reduce an escalation of viral infections;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that the Office of Public Health adopts specific policies and protocols to determine when a virus or other serious illnesses should be tracked, reported, and communicated to the public.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

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And then, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.