

MOTION

No. 9

Protecting Island Families From Increased Household Tax Burden

Honourable Olive Crane gives notice that tomorrow she will move, seconded by Jim Bagnall, the following Motion:

WHEREAS the Liberal administration is entertaining the adoption of the Harmonized Sales Tax on Prince Edward Island;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island is currently the only maritime province not operating under the Harmonized Sales Tax;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island's refusal to adopt the Harmonized Sales Tax has allowed the province, working in partnership with Island business, to develop competitive niches and sales tax advantages in areas of the retail sector such as clothing and footwear;

AND WHEREAS these progressive measures have created significant economic benefit for Island businesses;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island's refusal to adopt the Harmonized Sales Tax has allowed the province to develop tax incentives to encourage sound public policy principles such as increased conservation and sustainability through sales tax rebates and exemptions for hybrid vehicles and household renewable energy equipment;

AND WHEREAS adopting the Harmonized Sales Tax will eliminate the flexibility to pursue such progressive public policy measures;

AND WHEREAS the refusal to adopt the Harmonized Sales Tax has also reduced the tax burden on Island families through more affordable household fuel and electricity, shoes and clothing, and other essentials;

AND WHEREAS adopting the Harmonized Sales Tax will cut the tax freedom of Island families and significantly increase the daily cost of running a household by making essentials like heat, electricity and clothing more expensive;

AND WHEREAS adopting the Harmonized Sales Tax will unfairly penalize low income Island families, Island seniors, and Islanders with disabilities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly reject the notion of increasing the tax burden of Island households and businesses by rejecting the government's consideration of imposing the Harmonized Sales Tax on Prince Edward Island.

Signed by: Honourable Olive Crane

Signed by: Jim Bagnall

18 October 2007
8:25 p.m.