



STATUS OF GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION SPECIFICALLY BILL C-22, THE AGE OF PROTECTION ACT SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

WHAT HAPPENED?

It has been reported that Bill C-22, The Age of Protection Act **will not pass** and that is the harsh reality of it, after getting so very close!

Unfortunately Bill-C-22 was "delayed" by the Senate after being passed by the House of Commons and was sitting in the Senate when the House convened for the summer recess. At that time supporters, I am sure, were frustrated with the time that was passing by, but were confident that the Senate would clear the Bill and it would then be law when the Government reconvened in the fall.

I do not think that any of us had any idea what would happen next.

On September 14, 2007 the Prime Minister contacted the Governor General and requested a **prorogation** of Parliament until it is reconvened on October 16, 2007.

It is my understanding that the prorogation brings an end to this session of Parliament and eliminates any pending Bills in the House and Senate with the exception of private Members Bills and in doing so Bill C-22, The Age Of Protection Act will not move forward and is now dead.

On October 16, 2007 Parliament will reconvene and there will be a Speech from the Throne, followed by a motion for debate on the Speech which usually last 6 days. After the period of debate, there will be a vote of confidence or non confidence by all the members of the house.

If the vote is in favour of the Government, things will continue on as they have with a new session of Government, however if the opposition (Bloc, Liberal and NDP) vote against the Speech then the Government is defeated and an election called.

It is my understanding that never has a Speech from the Throne vote of confidence ever brought down the Parliament and if indeed history repeats itself proceeding Bills may be re-instated by Parliament with an amendment followed by unanimous consent and it would then be sent on to the Senate ...so there is hope, however it would appear that recent articles are indicating that both the Bloc and NDP are not prepared to support the Government unless their issues are addressed in the Speech.

It would appear that the only hope at this time to see The Age of Protection Act brought forward again is to call upon the Members of Parliament to support the Government!

C. A. S. E.
CANADIANS ADDRESSING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
Parkway Postal Outlet ● Box 62569
85 Ellesmere Road
Toronto, Ontario
M1R 5G8

TELEPHONE: (416) 412-6065 ● FAX: (416) 412-1321 ● E-MAIL: case@4case.ca ● WEBSITE: www.4CASE.ca

PAGE #2

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Bill C-22, The Age of Protection Act, to raise the age of consent from 14 years of age to 16 years of age passed the House of Commons in May, with all parties' unanimous support. This means it has an excellent chance to be one of the bills reinstated to its former situation. So, it would go back to the Senate for committee discussion and final third reading. Members of Parliament must hear from their constituents, requesting that The Age of Protection or Age of Consent Bill, C-22 be reinstated at its previous position before Parliament was prorogued.

- ❖ Contact your Member of Parliament requesting support for the reinstatement of Bill C-22 The Age of Protection Act.
- ❖ Contact the Leaders of the Federal Parties asking for their continuing support of this legislation and its reinstatement.

YOUR MP's Name
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Robert Pfaff
Co-President, C.A.S.E
(CANADIANS ADDRESSING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION)

C. A. S. E.
CANADIANS ADDRESSING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
Parkway Postal Outlet ● Box 62569
85 Ellesmere Road
Toronto, Ontario
M1R 5G8

TELEPHONE: (416) 412-6065 ● **FAX:** (416) 412-1321 ● **E-MAIL:** case@4case.ca ● **WEBSITE:** www.4CASE.ca