

Timmins Chamber of Commerce Chambre de commerce de Timmins

January 12, 2007

Charlie Angus, MP
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Charlie,

I would like to take the opportunity to express the deep concern of that The Timmins Chamber of Commerce has with the private member's Bill C-257, *An act to Amend the Canada Labour Code (replacement workers)*. As you are aware, Bill C-257, introduced into the House of Commons on May 04, 2006 by Mr. Richard Nadeau, Bloc Quebecois MP for Gatineau, is currently being studied by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Social Development and Status of Persons with Disabilities. If C-257 is not defeated in committee, we expect that C-257 will be voted upon at third reading in the House of Commons in the spring of 2007.

It is our opinion that any change to the *Canada Labour Code*, especially an amendment that alters the relationship between employers and employees, deserves extensive study in order to fully understand the impacts on Canadian society and the economy. As stated in section 2.4 of Bill C-257, the Bill would prevent uninterrupted provisions of services that affect seniors, families, small businesses and the Canadian economy-services like 911; health and emergency services; transportation services (air, rail, marine and road) and news and weather warnings in the event of a storm or tragedy. It is to the benefit of both parliamentarians and Canadians to have full understanding of the impacts of amending *Part 1 of the Canada Labour Code* through private member's Bill C-257.

The Timmins Chamber of Commerce fully supports the rights of parliamentarians to change public policy through private member's bills. However, *Part I of the Canada Labour Code* was developed through extensive consultation with both business and labour between 1995 and 1999. The result is a labour code that provides balance to both employers and employees. C-257 would significantly disrupt this balance and would be to the detriment to all Canadians. As such, the Timmins Chamber of Commerce would like to count on you in defeating Bill C-257.

Attached is a statement that outlines our concerns with C-257, and we would be pleased to meet with you to further discuss our concerns.

Sincerely,



Ken Petersen
President, 2006-2007
Timmins Chamber of Commerce

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