

C-4 Parliamentary Tracker

Wednesday, December 14

Full text of Hansard available at:

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Status of C-4

Bill C-4 was not debated on Wednesday, December 14, and is not on the Projected Order of Business for Thursday, December 15. Wednesday in the House, debate focused on Bill C-23, the *Canada-Jordan Economic Growth and Prosperity Act* and a Private Member's Motion on infrastructure. The only mention of refugee or immigration related issues were: a Statement on the situation of the Ashraf refugee camp in Iraq, a QP question about the pending deportation of a Haitian citizen, and the presentation of two petitions calling for the withdrawal of C-4 (text of all below).

Today, the House will debate C-26, the *Citizen's Arrest and Self-defence Act*, at Second Reading. If debate finishes of C-26, the House will consider C-28, the *Financial Literacy Leader Act*. Unlike it does on most Thursdays, the Public Safety Committee will not meet today.

Iraq

Ms. Lois Brown (Newmarket—Aurora, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, with the expected closure of Camp Ashraf just weeks away, Canada remains deeply concerned about the future well-being and safety of the over 3,000 men and women presently living in the camp.

Over the last number of years, Canadian officials have made numerous visits to Camp Ashraf and we are pleased that their efforts have resulted in the safe return to Canada of nine Canadians. At the direction of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, an official from the Canadian embassy will be making another visit today to monitor the situation and to offer assistance.

Our government has raised and will continue to raise the issue of Camp Ashraf directly with the Iraqi government, both in Ottawa and in Baghdad, and we strongly encourage it to extend the closure deadline to allow remaining residents sufficient time to seek asylum. We also call on Iraq to meet its obligations under international law and to ensure that Camp Ashraf residents are not forcibly transferred to another country where they could suffer.

Citizenship and Immigration

Ms. Rosane Doré Lefebvre (Alfred-Pellan, NDP):

Mr. Speaker, if nothing is done by tomorrow, a man in my riding, Jean-Bernard Devilmé, will be deported to Haiti. Mr. Devilmé has been living in Canada for 25 years. He works as a carpenter and contributes to society.

Although he committed some offences in the past, his record has been clean since 2007. What is more, many community agencies agree that this man, a father of four, must stay in the country.

I discussed this situation yesterday with the Minister of Public Safety. My question is simple: what does he intend to do to help Mr. Devilmé and his family?

Hon. Vic Toews (Minister of Public Safety, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, the public record is clear: the person is not a permanent resident and is here illegally. He has been convicted of numerous criminal offences since coming to Canada. Numerous tribunals and courts have reviewed his status, and I am not prepared to interfere with the decisions of the judiciary in this matter.

Citizenship and Immigration

Mr. Harold Albrecht (Kitchener—Conestoga, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, I have two petitions to present. One is signed by 63 people and the other by 100 people from the region of Waterloo. They are calling on the government to withdraw Bill C-4, the preventing human smugglers from abusing Canada's immigration system act.