



PRESS RELEASE

The Honourable Claudette Tardif, Ph.D., Senator

For immediate release

CONSERVATIVES STILL BLOCKING COMMITTEE STUDY OF BILL C-232

Ottawa (December 16, 2010) – With the Senate now adjourned for the winter break, Bill C-232 is at a standstill in the Senate since the Conservatives refuse to move forward with it.

“It is appalling that the crucial issue of the equal treatment of Anglophone and Francophone lawyers pleading cases before the highest court of the land has been dismissed out of hand,” charged Senator Claudette Tardif, the bill’s sponsor in the Senate.

Senator Tardif deplores the government’s bad faith in once again delaying the bill’s referral to committee for in-depth consideration.

“It is unacceptable that Conservative senators have ignored a bill that was passed 260 days ago by a majority of Members of the House of Commons. The least they can do is to refer C-232 to Committee, in accordance with the Senate’s role as the chamber of sober second thought.”

Once again the government is missing an opportunity to show openness to all Canadians who deserve equal and fair treatment before the Supreme Court by ensuring that their cases may be heard and understood in either official language.

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