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Having heard that Nova Scotians are being denied the opportunity to speak to this Bill at Law Amendments, I wanted to put a few thoughts on paper so that my voice can be heard in that way.

Our War Veterans fought and many died in order to preserve the ability of Canadians to live in a free country. Unionized workers have also stood together and bargained in order to achieve the collective agreements that govern the wages and working conditions that we presently enjoy today. This Bill takes away very basic rights from workers, there is no way around that fact. A Mediator, of which there is no promise will be an impartial one, will be making decisions for people, not necessarily with their best interests at heart.

I can only hope that government is able to look at every area of the budget, including the pensions and salaries that they enjoy with the same coldness as they look at the wages of the public sector workers. Maybe the liberal government should dictate that everyone in this province should work for minimum wage, including the members of the Legislature – that would be no different than what this tactic of the government amounts to.

Shame!

Darlene Fleet, NSGEU

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