SENATE
COMMITTEES DIRECTORATE



SÉNAT
DIRECTION DES COMITÉS

CANADA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Thursday, October 22, 2026
(49)

[*English*]

The Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Commerce and the Economy met this day at 10:36 a.m., in room W110, 1 Wellington St., the chair, the Honourable Clément Gignac, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Fridhandler, Gignac, Henkel, Loffreda, Varone and Yussuff (6).

Other senators present: The Honourable Senator Klyne (1).

Participating in the meeting: Adriane Yong and Brett Howard, Analysts, Library of Parliament.

The chair paid tribute to the Honourable Pamela Wallin, former senator and past chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Commerce and the Economy, who had recently retired from the Senate.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, the committee continued its consideration of Bill S-239, An Act to amend the Competition Act.

It was agreed that the committee proceed to clause-by-clause consideration of Bill S-239.

It was agreed that the title stand postponed.

It was agreed that clause 1, which contains the short title, stand postponed.

The chair asked whether clause 2 shall carry.

The Honourable Senator Fridhandler moved that Bill S-239 be amended in clause 2, on page 1, by replacing lines 9 to 12 with the following:

"tion to improve the state of competition in the market or industry".

The question being put on the motion in amendment, it was adopted.

The Honourable Senator Varone moved that Bill S-239 be amended in clause 2, on page 1, by adding the following after line 14:

"**(8.1)** A recommendation under subsection (8) must not propose the elimination or modification of any requirement, restriction or other measure established or administered under the Food and Drugs Act or any other Act administered by the Minister of Health, or any regulation, rule or order made under such an Act, if the requirement, restriction or other measure is intended to protect the health or safety of Canadians.".

The question being put on the motion in amendment, it was adopted.

The Honourable Senator Fridhandler moved that Bill S-239 be amended in clause 2,

(a) on page 1, by replacing lines 22 and 23 with the following:

"is delivered to the head of that institution. The Commissioner must publish the head's response on the Commissioner's website.";

(b) on page 2,

(i) by replacing line 4 with the following:

"port is delivered to the head of that institution. The Commissioner must publish the",

(ii) by replacing line 6 with the following:

"to this effect — on the Commissioner's website.".

The question being put on the motion in amendment, it was adopted.

It was agreed that clause 2, as amended, carry.

It was agreed that clause 1, which contains the short title, carry.

It was agreed that the title carry.

It was agreed that the bill carry, as amended.

It was agreed that the Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel be authorized to make necessary technical, grammatical or other required non-substantive changes resulting from the amendments adopted by the committee, in both official languages, including updating cross-references and renumbering of provisions.

It was agreed that the chair report Bill S-239, with amendments, to the Senate, in both official languages, at the earliest opportunity.

At 10:53 a.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Matthieu Boulianne

Clerk of the Committee