

*Routine Proceedings*FOURTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT

Hon. David MacDonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the fourth report of the Standing Committee on Environment with the title *No Time to Lose: The Challenge of Global Warming*.

Pursuant to Standing Order 109, the committee requests that the government table a comprehensive response within 150 days.

May I say, Mr. Speaker, for those who have followed the work of the committee, we have had more than a year of meetings, heard some 60 witnesses and more than 200 submissions.

We are tabling an interim report at this time in advance of our final and full report because of the very important second world climate conference that will take place near the end of this month and early in November at which our government will be called upon to play a key role.

We believe that the matters to be addressed there are so urgent that literally, as the title of this report says, there is no time to lose. We anticipate the 17 recommendations put forward by this all-party committee will be very seriously considered and acted upon with respect to our leadership at that important conference.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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ALL-NUMERIC DATES AND TIMES ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Mr. Ross Stevenson (Durham) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-338, an act to establish a national standard for the representation of dates and times in all-numeric form.

He said: The designation of dates in a numeric form can be very confusing as it is often difficult to tell which number is the day and which number is the month. After the year 2000 we can see a situation of 02/03/04, not knowing what is day, month, or year.

International standards organizations are pressing for the universal adoption of a non-confusing process for giving dates and times. Standards have been agreed upon and recommendations have been made. The order would

be year, month, and day. There is no specific federal legislation or agency responsible for or with jurisdiction over such matters now. I believe this bill would end much of the present confusion.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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• (1520)

MIDDLE EAST

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE TO TRAVEL

Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth): Mr. Speaker, I rise today under Routine Proceedings to seek the unanimous consent of the House to put the following motion. I move:

That this House establish a special committee of members and empower them to travel to the Middle East region, consult with members of the Canadian Armed Forces, observe all aspects of their operations and report its findings and recommendations back to this House at the earliest opportunity.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is there unanimous consent for the member to move the motion?

Some hon. members: No.

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PETITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour and privilege to rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 to present a petition which has been duly certified by the clerk of petitions.

This petition is from 63 of my constituents. They are from the Port Blandford area and another distinct area of my riding: Perry's Cove, Salmon Cove, Carbonear and Harbour Grace.

These petitioners are very concerned that they now need 14 weeks instead of 10 weeks to qualify for unemployment insurance in Newfoundland for the whole of the year. They note that the unemployment rate in Newfoundland, as I think everybody in this House knows, is the highest in the country. Therefore, the petitioners—and I am very pleased to note that the minister relevant to this is in the House today—humbly pray and call upon Parliament in the loudest possible voice to introduce the variable entrance requirement