

Routine Proceedings

STRIKING COMMITTEE—CONCURRENCE IN NINETEENTH REPORT

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Churchill, that the nineteenth report of the Striking Committee presented to the House earlier this day be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

* * *

• (1110)

PETITIONS

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition today with regard to the goods and services tax. It is signed by a number of Canadians explaining how they think it is an unfair taxation system and that it is going to hurt people. It is going to tax reading, haircuts, diapers, coffins, home heating fuel, et cetera. They call upon the House to reject the current proposal for a goods and services tax, to reform the taxation system so that there is an effective minimum tax on wealthy individuals and corporations to ensure that if and when there is a consensus on this sales tax measure to replace the manufacturers' sales tax, this reform not be an opportunity for the government to impose a massive tax grab.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a second petition on VIA Rail which calls upon the House to maintain an adequate VIA Rail system throughout Canada and to ensure that the federal government provide adequate funding to upgrade the service we have at the present time.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I am presenting seven petitions, which have been verified by the Clerk of the House, containing the signatures of 328 residents of Vancouver and surrounding regions of the lower mainland, and an additional 18 petitions containing the signatures of 1,178 residents of Sarnia, Ontario. These citizens call upon the government to withdraw its proposal for a regressive and inflationary 9 per cent goods and services tax.

Mr. Rey Pagtakhan (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition concerning the goods and services tax on behalf of the constituents of Winnipeg North. Some 200 signatures are included, because they believe that the proposed goods and services tax will impose an undue burden on them and will ruin small businesses. The petitioners hereby pray that Parliament grant them the necessary remedy and reject the proposed goods and services tax.

RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN

Mr. Rey Pagtakhan (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, my other set of petitions concern the issue of the protection of the life of the unborn. The petitioners, over 500, believe in the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception and believe that there is a need for a just law to protect the lives both of the unborn and the mother and further believe that there is a need for families and communities to develop various forms of support and shelter to provide care and assistance to mothers and mothers-to-be. The petitioners pray and call upon Parliament to formulate and legislate law to protect life from conception, a law which seeks to save the life of both mother and child.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I am honoured to present a petition signed by several dozen constituents in Massey and Elliot Lake, Ontario, in which they point out their displeasure with the proposed goods and services tax. They point out that this will cause higher taxes and that it will be especially onerous for low income families, that it will cause higher inflation, higher interest rates and will have an adverse effect on the regions of this country.

VIA RAIL

Hon. Ralph Ferguson (Lambton—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today to present a petition certified by the Clerk of Petitions of this House calling upon Parliament to urge the Government of Canada not to cancel in whole or in part passenger rail services in Canada.

SOUTH MORESBY PARK

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I am honoured this morning to table four petitions that have been certified pursuant to Standing Order 36. The first is a petition of over 80 pages. It has signatures from British Columbians who are concerned about the South Moresby Park agreement that would allow for millions of dollars to be spent to explore for minerals and hydrocar-