

Routine Proceedings

grievances regarding the government's proposed goods and services tax. They are calling upon the Liberals in the Senate to stop this tax dead in its tracks right away.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I have another petition on another topic. Petitioners are still concerned over the government's decision to cut back on VIA Rail. These are petitioners from western Canada who are calling for the government to reconsider the decision to close down a good part of the VIA system and introduce a modern passenger train service for Canada from coast to coast.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Ross Belsher (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour to present, on behalf of a number of residents from the riding of Vancouver South, a petition that calls upon Parliament and the Canadian government to take immediate and effective measures to secure Mr. Leo's release from prison. They are imploring Parliament to do everything possible to help this Canadian citizen.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, I have two sets of petitions signed by constituents of my riding of York West.

The first one, and there are about 15 petitions, asks this government to go back to the drawing board with respect to the GST. We know that the GST is currently in the hands of the Senate. The petitioners ask the government to have a second look as this is going to damage and undermine the fabric of not only average and middle-class Canadians but as well many of the small businesses that are the engines and the creators of jobs across the country.

PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, the second petition concerns Pearson International Airport. It comes mainly from individuals who live in and around the Pearson air flight zone.

They are asking that a further runway not now be constructed and that the enforcement for late night travel past midnight in the wee hours be stopped. This

will allow individuals living in those neighbourhoods to have a viable neighbourhood to live in not only for the short term but for the long term as the airport looks toward expansion.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Jerry Pickard (Essex—Kent): Mr. Speaker, today it is my privilege to bring forth many petitions that oppose the goods and services tax and the negative impacts this tax will bring upon Canadians.

They voice their opinion from my riding in Essex—Kent and ask the government to reconsider its position.

[Translation]

PROTECTION AND REGULATION OF FISH STOCKS

Mr. Guy H. Arseneault (Restigouche—Chaleur): Mr. Speaker, I have here a number of petitions signed by residents of Robertville, Pointe-Verte, Madran, Belledune, Petit Rocher and Beresford.

Your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to extend its jurisdiction to include the entire continental shelf, as permitted under international law, so that Canada can protect and regulate the fish stocks that are vital to Atlantic fishermen and to all Canadians.

[English]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present petitions signed by several hundred of my constituents in Bruce Mines and surrounding areas of the Algoma district.

They call on the government to not proceed with the goods and services tax because of the adverse effect it will have on low income and elderly people throughout the riding.

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• (1520)

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Bill Kempling (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, Question No. 259 will be answered today.