

**NATIONAL HOUSING ACT
CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING ACT**

TABLING OF DRAFT OF AMENDING BILL

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works): Madam Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 41(2) I have the honour to table for discussion two copies in both official languages of a draft bill to amend the National Housing Act and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Act.

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PETITIONS

MR. HAWKES—CULTURAL AFFAIRS—GAME OF CHESS

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West): Madam Speaker, it is my duty to present a petition signed by over 1,020 Canadians from coast to coast on behalf of the more than four million Canadians who benefit from the self-discipline and intellectual stimulation to be gained from chess.

The purpose of this petition is to indicate clearly to the federal government the urgent need for the federal government to follow the leadership of many provincial governments and other national governments and recognize chess as a universal form of cultural expression, combining physical and mental excellence.

[Translation]

The purpose of this petition is to ask the Secretary of State (Mr. Regan) to change departmental policy so as to include measures to promote chess and, consequently, physical and mental excellence.

[English]

The petitioners hope, Madam Speaker, that in your examination of their petition you will find the petition in order, sense the urgency of their plea, and that you might use the discretionary powers vested in your office to allow discussion and referral to committee at the earliest possible moment.

Madam Speaker: Would the hon. member like to repeat that in French now?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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CANADA LABOUR CODE

AMENDMENT RESPECTING SECURITY OF EMPLOYMENT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-646, to amend the Canada Labour Code (security of employment).

He said: Madam Speaker, I have filed a copy of this bill with the Clerk and I wish to introduce it for the following reason.

During the past year lay-offs of Canadian workers have been occurring with increasing and alarming regularity. The

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Canadian Manufacturers' Association has reported 140,000 lay-offs in that sector alone during the last few months.

This bill is designed to give increased protection to laid-off workers. If enacted, the bill would require longer advance notice of lay-offs, more generous severance pay and would provide for the establishment of a job protection board with representatives of labour, management and government, to inquire into the reasons for the lay-offs and plant closures.

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

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[Translation]

NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD ACT (NO. 2)

AMENDMENT RESPECTING APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY
MEMBER

Hon. André Ouellet (for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-87, an Act to Amend the National Energy Board Act (No. 2).

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

Madam Speaker: When shall this bill be read the second time? At the next sitting of the House?

Some hon. Members: Agreed!

Madam Speaker: Later today.

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● (1210)

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, while we are on the subject of introduction of bills, I wonder whether the government House leader could now advise the House if it is the intention of the government to introduce the Crown corporation bill which the President of the Treasury Board indicated is very important to him and which has been called for by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and by the Auditor General. If he is not in a position to give me that answer now, would he undertake to give me that answer during the recess? I have information on some good authority that the government has now decided to jettison that bill, and I would want to be persuaded otherwise.

[Translation]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, obviously we shall not be introducing any other bills today. With regard to the bills which will be introduced after the holidays, we shall be in a better position to inform the House as of January 25.