

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, October 7, 1986

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

LOCAL MEASURED TELEPHONE CHARGES

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition on behalf of a large number of Burnaby residents expressing their concern that the telephone pricing scheme known as local measured service, charging for each local call, would significantly increase telephone costs and they call upon Parliament to direct the CRTC to deny telephone companies, such as B.C. Tel, the right to local measured service.

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS—COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Mr. Elliott Hardey (Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition that has been properly endorsed. It is from a group of Canadian volunteer firefighters, most of whom are from my riding of Kent. They humbly pray that there be a commemorative postal stamp designed to honour the many volunteer professional firefighters who have protected property over the years and often rescued Canadians.

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CRIMINAL CODE

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-207, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (Gun Control).

Some Hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Bill is to extend the present law relating to firearms acquisition certificates to the ownership, possession and use of firearms and to change the name "Firearms Acquisition Certificate" to "Firearms Possession Certificate".

Stronger and more effective gun control legislation is essential to help reduce the level of violence involving guns, especially handguns, in our society.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the Hon. Member have leave to introduce the Bill?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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

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CRIMINAL CODE

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-208, an Act to amend the Criminal Code (Abortion).

Some Hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Bill is to recognize that the fundamental decision to terminate a pregnancy belongs to the woman concerned in consultation with her physician.

I would note that today marks the opening of Dr. Henry Morgentaler's Supreme Court challenge to Canada's abortion laws. Let us hope—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A brief explanation of the Bill is appropriate but I am sure the Hon. Member will understand that it should not go beyond that.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, to conclude my explanation of the Bill, I would suggest if in fact politicians do not recognize the injustice of the current abortion laws, let us hope the courts will do so and strike them down.

Ms. McDonald: Mr. Speaker, I am not the seconder of this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: I apologize to the House. There seems to be a little confusion, but we will have it sorted out. The Chair understands that this Bill is being seconded by Mr. Riis. Is that the wish of the Hon. Member for Burnaby?

Mr. Robinson: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the Hon. Member have leave to introduce the Bill?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.