

Routine Proceedings

For these and other reasons, they would ask Parliament not to cancel, in whole or in part, rail passenger service in Canada.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley): Madam Speaker, I have two petitions to present to this House, both certified under Standing Order 36. The first is to draw to the attention of this House the concerns that residents of 150 Mile House in British Columbia have over the tax craziness that this government has in bringing in a goods and services tax.

The petitioners call upon the Parliament of Canada to reject, among other things, the current proposal for a goods and services tax and to reform the taxation system so that there is an effective minimum tax on wealthy individuals and corporations.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley): Madam Speaker, as well, the government has gone so crazy that residents of Ontario are expressing their concerns about its approach and attitude toward VIA Rail cuts.

These petitioners call upon Parliament to maintain VIA Rail, Canada's national network, to upgrade it with new equipment and to give VIA Rail a sufficient budget to maintain its national mandate for passenger service.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Jack Iyerak Anawak (Nunatsiaq):

[Editor's Note: Member spoke in Inuktitut.]

[English]

Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is my honour to present to you two petitions from two communities in my riding, one from Tuktoyaktuk in the westernmost part of my constituency one from and Copper Mine, Northwest Territories in the Central Arctic, objecting to the proposed goods and services tax.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the honour to present a petition signed by many people from my constituency, from Madawaska, Cross Lake,

Petawawa, Pembroke, Cobden, Rankin and several other communities.

These people oppose the 9 per cent sales tax and they are asking the question, because the present manufacturer's sales tax has already gone from 9 per cent to 13.5 per cent, what guarantee do they have that this government is not going to increase the 9 per cent goods and services tax likewise. They are simply saying that after 31 increases in taxation by this government since it took power, enough is enough and they do not want this 9 per cent goods and services tax put on by this government.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Ross Harvey (Edmonton East): Madam Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 on this special day of the rally for rails to present a petition signed by a total of 684 Canadians, the overwhelming majority of whom live in Edmonton and, in fact, 45 of whom live in one apartment block in Edmonton.

These people are calling on the government to maintain VIA Rail, Canada's present national network, to upgrade VIA Rail with new equipment and to give VIA Rail a sufficient budget to maintain its national mandate for passenger service.

We keep submitting these petitions in the hope that the government will listen to the overwhelming majority of Canadians.

[Translation]

Mr. Guy H. Arseneault (Restigouche—Chaleur): Madam Speaker, I have two petitions concerning what my constituents and residents of other ridings consider a major issue.

Your petitioners are against the VIA Rail cutbacks. Given that the Government of Canada has opted for abandoning a number of VIA Rail routes and eliminating thousands of jobs and that railways are the safest and most environment-friendly means of transport, your petitioners humbly call upon the House of Commons to urge the government not to dismantle or reduce Canada's rail passenger services.

[English]

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Jack Whittaker (Okanagan—Similkameen—Meritt): Madam Speaker, I was afraid I was so far up in the