

Supply

of a Canadian citizen and taxpayer, Mr. Yih-Sheh Leo, who is also a citizen of Taiwan, who was arrested and is being held in prison in that country.

The petitioners urge the government to issue a public statement expressing Canada's concern over the violation of the rights of a Canadian citizen, to appoint a lawyer to handle the case, and to request Canada's allies, who have direct relations with that country, to intercede on his behalf.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): Madam Speaker, I rise to present two petitions today. The first is a petition from residents of the riding of Moose Jaw—Lake Centre who are concerned with the goods and services tax that the government is jackbooting through Parliament. They call upon this government to immediately withdraw the GST and to enter into proper tax reform in this country that is fair to all Canadians, and certainly average Canadians.

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): I also have a petition from a number of farmers in Saskatchewan who are concerned about the way this government is handling the Canadian Wheat Board. They are particularly concerned about the withdrawal of oats from the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board and they call upon this government to immediately reinstate oats and give oats and barley the same protection that wheat has under the Canadian Wheat Board, namely, that before it can be changed it has to come in front of this House to be debated by this House to protect farmers of western Canada.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise to present a petition signed by numerous people in Hamilton, Ontario, who express their opposition to this government's taxation policies, particularly its thirty-second consecutive tax increase in the form of the goods and services tax.

These petitioners indicate that they feel they are paying far too many taxes to this government already and that their moneys are being wasted. They ask that the government and this Parliament reject the goods and services tax.

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Pierre H. Vincent (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Shall all questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 81—THE SENATE

Mr. David Barrett (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca) moved:

That a message be sent to the Senate reminding the Senate that it has the constitutional right and the power to defeat any bill coming from the House of Commons.

He said: Madam Speaker, I want to begin my comments on this very important motion by gently rereading the motion which states:

That a message be sent to the Senate reminding the Senate that it has the constitutional right and the power to defeat any bill coming from the House of Commons.

One could reasonably ask why I would sponsor such a motion, considering that in the years past and to this very moment my position on the other chamber is to abolish it. However, since no previous government has taken my advice or direction on this matter, I am now forced to debate this issue in a new context facing us in this country with a number of crises that we have on our hands.

There are three crises facing this country. One is the Meech Lake Accord, one is the free trade agreement, and last, but not least, is the infamous goods and services tax.

Earlier today we heard the Minister of Finance suggest incorrectly that Japan and Canada have the same economic performance, or relatively the same. That was part of his answer in Question Period.