

**Mr. Gray (Windsor West):** Mr. Speaker, I do want to ask the Deputy Government House Leader this question. If, as stated in the Order in Council issued March 31, 1988, the former Secretary of State and Hon. Member for Rosedale was to start today as a commissioner to inquire into and make recommendations regarding the future of the Toronto Waterfront, I would like to know when that Member resigned his seat as the Hon. Member for Rosedale. If he resigned his seat either yesterday or today, why has the Government not called immediately a by-election to fill the vacancy as was done when Lucien Bouchard was named Secretary of State and the Hon. Member for Lac-Saint-Jean resigned his seat forthwith and a by-election was called forthwith?

**Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)):** Mr. Speaker, I will certainly inquire as to the whereabouts of the exact letter of resignation in order that I can satisfy my friend's curiosity. We would want to give my hon. friend the same opportunity to find a candidate as he had in the last by-election.

**Mr. Gray (Windsor West):** We have had one nominated for a year.

**Mr. Lewis:** I know there was a great deal of difficulty in finding one.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE TRIBUNAL ACT

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Hon. Bob Layton (Lachine):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the report of the Legislative Committee on Bill C-110, an Act to establish the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, and to amend or repeal other Acts in consequence thereof, in both official languages.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION ACT, 1987

MEASURE TO AMEND

**Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)):** Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among the Parties. I think Your Honour would find that there would be unanimous consent to bring forward at this time and introduce the Bill which is on the Notice Paper in the name of the Minister of State for Transport (Mr. St. Germain) entitled an Act to amend the National Transportation Act, 1987.

## Petitions

[Translation]

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (for the Minister of State (Transport))** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-131, an Act to amend the National Transportation Act, 1987.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall the Minister have leave to introduce the Bill?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** When shall the Bill be read the second time? At the next sitting of the House?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

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[English]

## PETITIONS

CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honour to present a petition on behalf of a number of petitioners from western Canada who are concerned that the federal Government lacks a mandate from the Canadian people to conclude a free trade deal with the United States. They believe that the trade agreement negotiated by the Government threatens the very fabric of our political and economic sovereignty since it removes the power of the Canadian Government to control effectively foreign ownership. It removes the power of the Canadian Government to develop Canadian energy resources in the best interest of Canadians. It certainly eliminates our ability to equalize opportunities between the regions of Canada.

They believe that this agreement would deny Canada the policy freedom to determine its own economic future, and it undermines our ability to build a society distinct from that of the United States.

Therefore, the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to dissolve now to allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject the proposed trade deal during a national general election.

• (1510)

EQUALITY OF CHOICE IN CHILD CARE

**Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and privilege to present a lengthy petition signed by 4,712 Canadians from Victoria to Quebec; 24 towns and villages in Alberta, eight in British Columbia, three in