

form for any aspect of the Three Gorges dam project from this day forward.

[*Translation*]

REQUEST FOR ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a petition from residents of Dubuisson, Val-d'Or, Malartic, Senneterre, Vassan, Val-Senneville, Sullivan and La Motte in the riding of Abitibi who say that films depicting violence on television are dangerous and therefore unacceptable because they act as a stimulus for violent behaviour.

The petition also says that all toys that incite children to play violent games are unacceptable and their manufacture should be banned. It is also pointed out that when acts of violence are reported, the freedom of the press should be restricted, and that the repeated broadcasting of news about acts of violence on television on all channels and on radio may act as a stimulus for further identical violent behaviour.

Therefore, your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to pass the appropriate legislation in order to eliminate violence in our society and thus protect our children and give all citizens a better quality of life.

[*English*]

WATER DIVERSION

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to present a petition on behalf of a number of residents of British Columbia. They indicate their opposition to a plan by Multinational Resources Inc. which has the support of a number of American companies. The intention is to divert up to one million acre-feet of water from the North Thompson River, which is a tributary of the Fraser River, into the Columbia River basin and through a number of different basins until it gets into the Sacramento River basin on its way to southern California.

The petitioners figure this would generate profits in the range of \$300 million annually to the firm. However because of the ecological consequences and the general concern that people have in terms of river diversion, the petitioners are asking that the Parliament of Canada take whatever steps are needed to ensure that this type of diversion would never occur.

*Routine Proceedings*

BILL C-268

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition on a different matter which is signed by a number of residents from Alberta. They are asking us to recognize the point made in Bill C-268 entitled an act respecting a national solidarity day for the First Nations of Canada. They are asking that Parliament support this particular bill and this initiative to show solidarity and support for aboriginal people of Canada.

WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAMS

**Mr. Tom Wappel (Scarborough West):** Mr. Speaker, I have 29 petitions I would like to present today, all on the same subject.

The petitions contain signatures of literally thousands of Canadians from all areas of the country on the subject of the fact that witness protection programs are a matter of policy only at the discretion of each individual police force. They also point out that because of that there is no unity or national consensus on this matter.

They therefore request that Parliament enact legislation to provide for an act to protect witnesses. In one respect this was the reason I brought forward my private member's bill earlier today.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Murray Cardiff (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, the following question will be answered today: No. 367.

[*Text*]

Question No. 367—**Mr. Belsher**

Have any public servants who have been offered early retirement and or a severance package been subsequently rehired on contract and, if so, (a) how many (b) at what cost (c) what is the estimated cost had these individuals been retained?

**Mr. Charles A. Langlois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** For fiscal year 1991-92, for

yes, (a) 93 (b) \$1,577,103 (c) \$3,041,456 approximately (excludes employee-paid benefits).