

*Routine Proceedings***COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE****INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND REGIONAL AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT—AUTHORIZATION FOR STANDING COMMITTEE TO TRAVEL**

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I believe that you will find unanimous consent for the following motion:

That further to the order made on April 11, 1990, the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology and Regional and Northern Development be authorized to travel to Edmonton during its western investigations.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. parliamentary secretary have the unanimous consent of the House to move the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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PETITIONS**GOODS AND SERVICES TAX**

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is my honour to present a petition on behalf of a large number of Canadians who are opposing the goods and services tax. The petitioners feel that this is an unjust and unfair tax which discriminates against those Canadians who live outside the central corridor of Ontario and Quebec and are asking the government and the Parliament of Canada to do whatever they can to curtail this tax.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, on another topic, the petitioners point out the government's intention to dismantle passenger rail service in Canada. The petitioners, primarily from western Canada, go to some length pointing out all the reasons why Canada should have a comprehensive VIA Rail service across the country, particularly because of its environmentally friendly nature. They ask that the government not only stop the dismantling of VIA Rail but in fact invest in a

rapid, economical, safe, convenient, environmentally sound and energy efficient passenger rail system.

CHILDREN'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, on a different topic, the petitioners are pointing out to the House of Commons that the number of children living in poverty is actually increasing in Canada. They feel, and I certainly support them, that this is something that we ought not to tolerate for a moment. They have asked the government to rethink its position of voting against a comprehensive bill of rights for children and are asking the Parliament of Canada to reintroduce it at some time in the future.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, on another topic it is my pleasure to present a petition on behalf of a number of people from Kamloops, British Columbia who are distraught with the fact that the government has seen fit to tax magazines, books and newspapers at a time when we are concerned about the increasing levels of illiteracy. I think that this is the only country in the world that will be actually taxing reading. Therefore, the petitioners are asking the government to please come to its senses and back off again from the GST legislation.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the honour to present two petitions. The first petition calls upon Parliament to prevail upon the Secretary of State to restore the funding for the native communications program and for the northern native broadcast access program which were cut in the recent budget of the Secretary of State.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, the second petition, also certified under Standing Order 36, calls on the government to reject the current proposals 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.

PEARSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Hon. Roy MacLaren (Etobicoke North): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to table a petition certified correct as to form and content from