

## YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

**Mr. Murray Calder (Wellington—Grey—Dufferin—Simcoe, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am presenting two petitions today.

The first contains 25 signatures and calls on the government to amend the Young Offenders Act.

## MINING

**Mr. Murray Calder (Wellington—Grey—Dufferin—Simcoe, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the second petition contains 175 signatures and calls on the government to remove impediments to the mining industry such as overlapping regulations.

The petitioners pray and call on Parliament to improve the investment climate to stimulate the industry and to keep mining in Canada.

## YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

**Mr. John Solomon (Regina—Lumsden, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am pleased to present to Parliament a petition from the professional teaching staff of Martin Collegiate Institute in the constituency of Regina—Lumsden.

The teaching staff strongly object to the present status of Canada's Young Offenders Act. They feel the Young Offenders Act has failed to address the issue of youth crime and its negative results in our schools, communities and society in general.

• (1520)

They call on Parliament to enact legislation to significantly toughen the Young Offenders Act as quickly as possible, with a view to making young offenders responsible for their actions, making names of young offenders public and increasing severity of consequences for repeat offences.

## INCOME TAX ACT

**Mr. Paul Szabo (Mississauga South, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I wish to present a petition that has been circulating all across Canada. It has been signed by a number of Canadians from Surrey and Delta, British Columbia.

The petitioners should like to draw to the attention of the House that managing the family home and caring for preschool children is an honourable profession that has not been recognized for its value to society. They also state that the Income Tax Act discriminates against families who make the choice to provide care in the home to preschool children, the disabled, the chronically ill or the aged.

The petitioners therefore pray and call on Parliament to pursue initiatives to eliminate tax discrimination against families who decide to provide care in the home to preschool children, the disabled, the chronically ill or the aged.

## Routine Proceedings

## GUN CONTROL

**Mr. Cliff Breitkreuz (Yellowhead, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to present a petition signed by constituents of Yellowhead who are strongly opposed to the universal registration provision in Bill C-68. They want protected the right of law-abiding citizens to own and use recreational firearms.

They also are concerned that with Canada's serious deficit and debt problem such costly and unproven legislation should not proceed.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

**Mr. Peter Adams (Peterborough, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from the citizens of Peterborough and elsewhere in Ontario concerned about the massive spill of cyanide in the Essequibo River in Guyana, South America. They point out that the spill was the direct responsibility of a Montreal based Canadian gold mining firm called Canbior. They also point out that the safety, livelihood and well-being of some 18,000 Guyanese citizens are affected.

Therefore the petitioners call on Parliament to direct an independent inquiry into the incident in order that the Canadian residents and citizens who have a humanitarian and an environmental responsibility in this matter are informed of the steps being taken to arrange for the adequate compensation of people affected and have steps taken to ensure that necessary measures are being taken to correct this environmental disaster.

I have a second petition on the same topic, in which the signers point out that the river in question is the largest in Guyana; that it passes through the rice producing belt of Guyana, rice constituting one of the country's main exports; and that this is one of the worst environmental disasters since the incident in Bhopal.

Therefore the petitioners call on Parliament to intervene on behalf of the Guyanese people affected by sending a trained team of environmentalists to determine the nature and extent of the danger to residents and the environment, and to aid the Guyanese government.

## HUMAN RIGHTS

**Mr. Tom Wappel (Scarborough West, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have two sets of petitions to present.

The first set contains somewhat over 500 signatures from all over Canada including my riding. It requests that Parliament not amend the charter of rights and freedoms or the Canadian Human Rights Act in any way that would tend to indicate societal approval of same sex relationships or of homosexuality, including amending the Canadian Human Rights Act to include in the prohibited grounds of discrimination the undefined phrase sexual orientation.