

Tabling of Documents

unaware. I am very aware of the situation and I want to assure Hon. Members of that.

I want to thank Hon. Members on both sides for the understanding they have worked out among themselves. That makes it much easier for the Speaker.

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I noticed that you acknowledged the very distinguished parliamentarians from Windsor West, Kamloops—Shuswap, and the Minister of State. I presume those remarks did not mean that you would be excluding other Members who felt they had points of order or wanted to comment on the matter.

Mr. Speaker: I thank the Hon. Member. My answer is of course no. I most certainly will hear some other Members if there is a desire on their part to contribute to the debate. It was in the interests of clarity, and so that we all know what we are doing and how it is going, that I indicated that that would be the order in which I would open the debate.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the Government's responses to seven petitions, Nos. 332-4240, 332-4311, 332-4325, 332-4380, 332-4448, 332-4450, and 332-4603.

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

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MAIN ESTIMATES, 1988-89

EXTENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENT VOTES

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition) moved:

That pursuant to Standing Order 82(15)(a), consideration of Environment Votes 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 of the Main Estimates for the year ending March 31, 1989, by the Standing Committee on Environment and Forestry, be extended beyond May 31, 1988.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 82(15)(a) the motion is deemed adopted.

Motion agreed to.

PETITIONS

CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour to present a petition on behalf of a number of residents of the fine City of Calgary, Alberta, as well as residents of Black Creek, Courtenay, Nanaimo, Cumberland, and Comox, British Columbia.

While they are different petitions, they deal with the same concern that the federal Government lacks a mandate from the Canadian people to conclude a trade deal with the U.S.

They believe that the deal would deny Canada the policy freedom to determine its own economic future and would undermine our ability to develop a society distinct from that of the U.S. Therefore, they ask Parliament to dissolve now to enable the people of Canada an opportunity to accept or reject the proposed trade deal during a national general election.

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I also have the honour to present a petition signed by Canadians indicating their opposition to the Government's free trade arrangement with the U.S.

The petitioners believe that the trade agreement negotiated by the Government threatens the very fabric of Canadian political and economic sovereignty by removing the power of the Canadian Government to control foreign ownership effectively, to develop Canadian energy resources in the best interests of Canadians, and to equalize opportunities between the regions.

They humbly pray and call upon Parliament to dissolve and allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject the proposed trade arrangement through a national general election.

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by residents of Canada who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right thus to present a grievance common to our petitioners, namely that the Mulroney Government has sold out Canada without obtaining anything in exchange; that Canadian industries are still not protected against U.S. trade laws; that the United States has obtained everything it wanted in major areas, including agriculture, energy, the automobile industry, financial services and the investment industry; that the jobs of thousands of Canadians are being threatened, and that the Conservative Government has failed to provide any adjustment assistance for Canadian workers.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to condemn this Government for signing the Mulroney-Reagan trade deal.

[English]

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present a petition from Canadians living in