

Petitions

[English]

Mr. Speaker, I also have a second petition which is duly in order as attested to by the Clerk of Petitions. It asks that the Government reinstate the Katimavik program in support of Senator Hébert's public protest against its abolition.

[Translation]

Mr. Jacques Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition that has been certified as to form and content. The petition also concerns Katimavik and states that the program was a success in training 20,000 young people who took part in the program in the last decade.

Petitioners are asking the Government to reconsider its decision to terminate Katimavik.

[English]

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition to present to the House of Commons in accordance with the new rules. It is signed by 29 people. The petitioners express regret with respect to the short-sighted budgetary measure which is being taken at the expense of Canadian youth through the cancellation of the Katimavik program. It calls upon the House of Commons to reinstate the funding of Katimavik in support of a program for the young people of Canada and in support of the demonstration which Senator Hébert is carrying out in the other place in support of youth.

Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition addressed to the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled. It has attached to it the certificate of examination. The petition has been signed by 50 young people who describe themselves as the "Friends of Katimavik". They are all from the Kitchener-Waterloo area, an area where there are many students. They are protesting the Government's cancellation of the Katimavik program.

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I too have a petition which has been duly signed and certified in which constituents from the ridings of Gatineau, Chicoutimi, and certainly a number of areas across the country, call upon the Government to reinstate the program Katimavik, not "PC-mavik", which the Government seems to be intending.

● (1110)

[Translation]

—which was a success, because it was an education for 20,000 young people who took part in the program during the last decade and because of the important community projects that were carried out by these young volunteers in Canadian municipalities during that period.

[English]

I have a second petition also calling upon the Government to reinstate the Katimavik Program rather than PC substitutes, because all Canadians will be the lesser for the loss of a program that gave young men and women a chance to fulfil their potential and show leadership while helping others. I

think this petition certainly moves in concert with the battle which is now being fought by Senator Jacques Hébert.

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[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-286, an Act to amend the Official Languages Act (Parliamentary institutions).

Mr. Speaker: Shall the Hon. Member have leave to introduce the said Bill?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, to remove all doubts and restore a measure of justice, I would like to introduce a Bill that is aimed at making the Official Languages Act apply specifically to Parliamentary Institutions, which according to an age-old rule as interpreted by certain people, are not bound by general legislation unless provision is specifically made otherwise.

According to this provision, the Act would apply specifically to the Library of Parliament and the permanent offices of the Senate and the House of Commons, while the private offices of Members and Senators would obviously be exempt.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt this motion?

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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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, question No. 381 will be answered today.