

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, February 9, 1993

The House met at 10 a.m.

---

*Prayers*

---

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

### GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

**Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to 23 petitions.

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

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

### BILL C-79

#### REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Mr. Jean-Marc Robitaille (Terrebonne):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-79, an act to amend the Divorce Act and the Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance Act, with amendments.

\* \* \*

[*English*]

### PETITIONS

#### YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

**Mr. Brian O'Kurley (Elk Island):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I would like to present three

petitions including the names of hundreds of Canadians in and around the riding of Elk Island.

These petitioners live in places such as Fort Saskatchewan, Ardrossan, Bruderheim, Sherwood Park, North Cooking Lake and Edmonton.

The petition states that the Young Offenders Act is in itself inadequate to deal with the problems of youth crime. The petitioners believe this act must be strengthened or replaced by legislation that will act as a stronger deterrent to criminal activity among the nation's young people.

Therefore the petitioners respectfully pray and call upon Parliament to strengthen or replace the Young Offenders Act with legislation that will be a stronger deterrent to youth crime.

These people are most concerned with repeat violent young offenders and recommend harsher penalties including work camps. In cases dealing with theft or property damage they support financial repayment to the victims of crime.

Generally the citizens want laws that make young offenders more accountable for their actions. These Canadians want laws that are seen to support victims of crime rather than insulate offenders from justice.

[*Translation*]

#### OLD AGE SECURITY

**Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface):** Mr. Speaker, petitioners from my province wish to bring the following to your attention: that indexation of pensions should adequately reflect the needs of the elderly; that the general cost of living indexation does not reflect the real financial needs of the elderly; that under the current system pension payments, even with the supplement, provide an income that is below the poverty line; that an alarming number of senior citizens are now living below or at the poverty line; and, finally, that senior citizens are facing a crisis because their incomes are insufficient.