

Routine Proceedings

NATO operations in Canada, including the proposed tactical fighter and weapons training centre at Goose Bay, Labrador.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Ray Funk (Prince Albert—Churchill River): Madam Speaker, I have a second petition signed by several hundred residents of my constituency in northern Saskatchewan. These people are very much aware that the goods and services tax will fall even more heavily on northern residents than on Canadians in other parts of the country due to their higher cost of living. Therefore, they call on the government to withdraw that tax and to introduce a fair taxation system based on ability to pay.

NORTHERN BENEFITS

Mr. Ray Funk (Prince Albert—Churchill River): Madam Speaker, I have a third petition, also from residents of northern Saskatchewan. These people are calling on the government to reject the proposals of the task force on northern benefits which would take away the tax benefits from approximately 150 communities in Saskatchewan. They call on the government to introduce a tax benefit system that recognizes the higher cost of living in northern Saskatchewan and to implement a tax system which will recognize those costs and to implement that immediately.

• (1610)

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland): Madam Speaker, I have the honour today to present from my riding another petition which refers to the proposed goods and services tax. Had it not been for the procedures of the House, I would have had the opportunity to present these petitions sooner.

The people who are represented in these petitions from all parts of my riding ask that the government withdraw this tax. They believe, in the words of an octogenarian from my riding, that it will have a very bad effect on our economy, lead to a recession, and will be the straw that breaks the camel's back for many of the consumers in my riding.

Mr. John Brewin (Victoria): Madam Speaker, I have a petition from over 2,000 people, primarily from Victoria, on the subject of the GST.

The petition urges Parliament to reject the GST. The message, while too late for the House of Commons on this round, is still a viable issue for the other House of

Parliament. I present these petitions to the House in the hope that the government will finally listen.

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Saskatoon—Humboldt): Madam Speaker, it is my honour and duty on behalf of the citizens of Canada to present a number of petitions on the goods and services tax.

They point out that the goods and services tax is an unfair form of taxation because it lacks regard for the taxpayers' ability to pay. They call upon Parliament to reject the current proposals and to put in place tax reform which is valid for all people of Canada.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Madam Speaker, it is indeed a pleasure to present a petition, pursuant to Standing Order 36, on behalf of a number of residents of my constituency, Kamloops, Clearwater, Barrier, Logan Lake, Chase, Savona, and a number of other communities as well.

They also point out their concerns regarding the proposed goods and services tax and presumably are now asking Parliament to oppose this tax once it comes back from the Upper House.

CHILDREN'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Madam Speaker, my second petition refers to the number of children living in poverty in Canada. The petitioners point out that the number of these children is actually increasing and call upon the government of Canada to negotiate with the provinces to provide a comprehensive bill of rights for children.

* * *

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 213, 237, 248, and 249.

[Text]

PURCHASE OF BOOK ENTITLED SAFETY SENSE ON THE ROAD

Question No. 213—**Mr. Boudria:**