

OPPOSITION TO LOCAL MEASURED TELEPHONE CHARGES

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present petitions signed by hundreds of residents of my constituency of Burnaby who note that the telephone is essential for communication and that rental costs must always be affordable. They further note that the telephone pricing system known as local measured service, or charging for each local call, means having a telephone will cost much more for most people, and will particularly hit those who rely on their phones, including seniors, the disabled, those confined to their homes, and volunteer organizations. Therefore, they call upon Parliament to direct the CRTC to deny to telephone companies such as B.C. Tel the right to charge for each individual call and order the retention of the monthly rental for telephones.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, I also have the honour of presenting a petition, again signed by a large number of residents of Burnaby, as well as of Vernon, Kamloops, Chetwynd and a variety of other towns and municipalities in the Province of British Columbia, who note that the federal Government's proposals to change the Patent Act relating to prescription drugs will increase drug prices for Canadians and severely restrict the ability of average Canadians to buy necessary prescription drugs. They point out this is in effect a concession to the U.S. in the free trade negotiations and therefore call upon Parliament to reject these proposals which will increase prescription drug prices for Canadians in Prince George and many other areas.

REQUEST FOR FULL INDEXATION OF FAMILY ALLOWANCES—
RESTORATION OF CHILD BENEFITS

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Finally, I have a large number of petitions again signed by residents of Burnaby, British Columbia, who note that deindexation of universal family allowances and the massive cut-backs in the public commitment to child benefits are an unfair attack on women and families with children, especially single-parent mothers. They note this is particularly unfair in the face of budget hand-outs such as the \$500,000 tax-free capital gain exemption, greater RRSP deductions for high income earners, the bail-out of banks, and, of course, they note that this particularly hits farmers who are already struggling.

Therefore, they call upon the House of Commons to reinstate full indexation of universal family allowances and rescind unfair tax increases.

CESSATION OF LOGGING ON SOUTH MORESBY ISLAND

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition duly certified and signed by some 35 residents of Niagara who, far from the source of their concern, nevertheless express a real concern for the future of the island of South Moresby and the flora and fauna found there. The island is also the ancestral home of the Haida nation. The petitioners

Motions

humbly pray that this Parliament halt the logging operation on that island.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have nine petitions I wish to table with the Clerk today. To summarize them very briefly, they are signed by residents of Ontario, particularly Mississauga, as well as Nova Scotia, particularly from the constituency of Cape Breton—The Sydneys.

I also have another petition signed by residents of Lindsay, Ontario.

I have another petition signed by residents of Nova Scotia, particularly the constituency of Annapolis in the Middleton and Kingston area of Nova Scotia.

I also have another petition signed by residents of the constituency of Cape Breton—Highlands—Canso, particularly in the St. Peters area of Nova Scotia. The federal Government's proposals will raise the already high cost of drugs to provincial health care programs, and whereas the monopoly granted to integrated pharmaceutical companies will prevent competition from generic companies and result in an increase in drug prices, and severely restrict the ability of average Canadians to buy necessary prescription drugs, as well as being another example of the Canadian Government's concessions in the free trade negotiations with the U.S. at the expense of everyday Canadians, the petitioners call upon the Government of Canada to withdraw the amendments to Bill C-22.

Finally I have petitions signed by individuals from Brantford, Ontario, people from the great Province of Alberta, as well as Quebec, and finally from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, including the MLA who represents that constituency in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, the Hon. Jim Smith. They call upon the Government of Canada to withdraw the amendments to Bill C-22 which they believe will negatively affect senior citizens, the elderly, the poor and the sick of this country in a very harmful way.

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ELECTIONS, PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES

AUTHORIZATION TO STANDING COMMITTEE TO TRAVEL

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions among the Parties and I think you will find there is consent to put this motion and pass it. Therefore, I move:

That the Standing Committee on Elections, Privileges and Procedure be authorized to travel to Vancouver, B.C. to hold hearings on May 4, 1987 on the Report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of British Columbia, and that the necessary staff accompany the Committee.