

Routine Proceedings

VIA RAIL

Mr. Joe Fontana (London East): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is my duty to present petitions to this House.

The petitioners are from Thunder Bay and London, Ontario, and other points where in fact people have been adversely affected by the VIA cuts. They ask Parliament and the government to rebuild VIA Rail, to give it an increased mandate to serve the public, especially in light of the great concern of Canadians about the congested highways and the environment.

CANADA POST

Mr. Cid Samson (Timmins—Chapleau): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure and an honour for me to stand today under Standing Order 36 to present two separate petitions.

The first comes from the good residents of Industrial Park in Halifax.

• (1130)

They call on the government to make improved service the highest priority of Canada Post and to instruct the government to abandon this policy of closing rural and urban post offices.

The petitioners recognize that postal services are a very essential and very important service to the members of that community and many others. They are calling on the government to cease dismantling of that excellent service.

NORTHERN TAX BENEFITS

Mr. Cid Samson (Timmins—Chapleau): Further, Mr. Speaker, I have quite a number of petitions signed by residents from many, many different areas of the north: Moose Factory, Timmins, Wawa, and Iroquois Falls, to name but a few—

An hon. member: South Porcupine.

Mr. Samson: South Porcupine, to name another one. They are calling on Parliament to reject the recommendations of the committee report and to develop a fair and equitable tax benefit program for northern residents.

They are asking the Minister of Finance to recognize the financial needs of the people in the north and isolated areas and to reject the report put forward by the committee.

VETERANS' ALLOWANCES

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and privilege to present a petition signed by a number of constituents of the Alexandria area.

These people are calling upon Parliament to ask the government to reject the budgetary measures that would cut back on veterans' benefits and allowances.

BILL 178

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): I also have a second petition, Mr. Speaker, that it is my duty to present in this House. The members across will understand why I use the word duty.

These people are asking me to present a petition to ask the Governor General to disallow Bill 178 of the province of Quebec.

Even though it is my duty to present this petition, it should not be misconstrued as my agreement with it, because it is not.

CANADA POST

Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition from 1,044 of my constituents who reside in the Alberni Valley and who are complaining about the drastic cut-backs in service by Canada Post in the Alberni Valley.

Canada Post has cut out of the drive-through mailbox services. It has taken local sorting out of the community and transferred it to Nanaimo, resulting in the loss of several jobs in Port Alberni. My constituents feel that if the management of Canada Post was not under the ideological protection of the Conservative Party, it would have been fired in a minute.

My constituents therefore request that Canada Post Corporation be instructed to keep existing outlets, operate longer hours, expand revenue generating services, stop privatizing and start increasing services to raise revenues.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Ray Skelly (North Island—Powell River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to place before the House a petition protesting the implementation of the Mulroney GST.