

*Questions on the Order Paper*

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 106 it is my privilege and responsibility to present a duly certified petition from residents of Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands, a riding, incidentally, which has a high percentage of senior citizens. The petitioners are very concerned about changes in the Patent Act relating to prescription drugs which will increase drug prices for Canadian consumers and will restrict the ability of average Canadians to buy necessary prescription drugs. They are concerned that these changes will result in unnecessary hardship both for individual consumers and for provinces. They see this as another example of Canadians bowing—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. Members, I think, have been given a fair amount of latitude by the Chair in making sure that the House and those who are listening know the thrust of the petitions. I would ask that the Hon. Member not go on overly long.

**Mr. Manly:** In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the petitioners urge that the House of Commons reject the proposed changes to the patent law.

[Translation]

REQUEST THAT BUDGET CUTS TO RESEARCH BE RESCINDED

**Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River):** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and duty today, pursuant to Standing Order 106, to present a petition to this honourable House.

Mr. Speaker, the petition is signed by residents of Kanata, Ottawa, Navan, Orleans and Gloucester who ask Parliament to abolish the budgetary cutbacks affecting research, especially in the budget of the National Research Council.

[English]

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

**Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a second petition which is signed by residents of the areas of Devlin, Emo, Fort Frances, Stratton and Barwick in my riding. This petition again, as with so many others, calls upon the Government to rescind the proposed changes to the Patent Act which will inevitably increase the drug prices paid by ordinary Canadians.

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, I also have the honour to get up yet once again and present a petition under Standing Order 106. This petition has been certified by the Clerk of Petitions. As far as I know, it has not been seen yet by the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski), but I understand that that is not required under the rules of the House of Commons.

**Mr. Lewis:** Not yet required.

**Mr. Murphy:** I heard the threat from the Parliamentary Secretary. In the petition these people from numerous communities in Ontario, including Mississauga, Oakville, Scarborough, London, Toronto and Hamilton, express their

deep concern that the cost of drugs will go up as a result of the Government's action. They also protest strenuously the fact that this is yet another example of the Canadian Government's concessions to the United States, at the expense of average Canadians, as a result of the free trade negotiations. These petitioners believe that they will be unfairly hurt, especially those whose health needs require the purchase of prescription drugs on an ongoing basis. They call upon the House to protest the Government's actions.

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to join with my colleagues in presenting petitions on behalf of a number of western Canadians who are very concerned about the Government's plan to introduce changes to the Patent Act which they believe will increase the price of prescription drugs dramatically. They call upon us as parliamentarians to do whatever we can to encourage the Government to change its mind and reject the concept of changing the Patent Act which will, in their words, increase prescription drug prices for Canadians.

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● (1120)

[Translation]

### STRIKING COMMITTEE

CONCURRENCE IN SEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario):** Mr. Speaker, if the House gives its consent, I move, seconded by Mr. Lewis:

That the Seventh Report of the Striking Committee, presented to the House earlier this day, be concurred in.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the Hon. Member have the unanimous consent of the House to move this motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House has heard the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

**Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall all questions stand?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.