

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Gilbert Parent (Welland—St. Catharines—Thorold): Mr. Speaker, I have four petitions to present today concerning the GST. Inasmuch as it is possible that this will be rammed through the Senate against all the practices that have been in play there for a number of years, I feel it is imperative that these voices be heard one more time. Once again, the plea goes out to this government; please rescind this very unfair tax it is imposing upon the citizens of Canada.

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, I too rise to table a petition which joins the petitions of thousands of other Canadians protesting the GST and, in particular, protesting the government actions both here and in the other place in ramming the GST down the throats of Canadian taxpayers.

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to present a petition signed by numerous Canadians, many from the beautiful city of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, who object to the goods and services tax and particularly its application to books.

They would be appalled at the actions of the government puppet in the chair of the other place who is seeking to ram this tax down the throats of Canadians.

Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston): Mr. Speaker, I too would like to rise and present to this House a number of petitions with respect to GST. There are hundreds of names in these particular petitions. Literally hundreds of thousands and into the millions of Canadians have signed petitions opposing the goods and services tax.

In this particular case, these petitioners indicate in the recital to this particular petition that the Conservative government has imposed since 1984 at least 31 new taxes or tax increases on Canadians. They also point out that since September 1984, when this government came to office, the manufacturers' sales tax has been increased by this government from 9 per cent to 13.5 per cent. Now the Conservative government wants to impose the goods and services tax.

Routine Proceedings

These petitioners call on the government to rescind this regressive and unfair tax. I am sure that all these petitioners would be appalled and ashamed at the tuggery in the Senate by Conservative senators who in an illegal fashion are trying to ram the GST through.

Mrs. Marlene Catterall (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, I too have the honour to present a petition in opposition to the GST. It points out the hypocrisy of the government in increasing the FST by 50 per cent so that it can be replaced with a much higher than necessary tax on goods and services.

If these petitioners could, I know they would also be objecting to the breaking of the rules in the Senate to ram this through.

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QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDER FOR RETURN

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, if Question No. 392 could be made an Order for Return, the return would be tabled immediately.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House that Question No. 392 be deemed to have been made an Order for Return.

Some hon. members: Agreed.

[Text]

SMALL CRAFT HARBOURS

Question No. 392—**Mr. McGuire:**

For the fiscal years (a) 1989-90 (b) 1990-91, were any expenditures made in the province of Prince Edward Island under the Small Craft Harbour Divisions and, if so, by (i) federal riding (ii) harbour location, what were they?

Return tabled.

[English]

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.