

Routine Proceedings

provide an extension of the funding so that I could then use the time to begin to recruit the assistance and enlistment of the private sector.

We have been able to obtain a number of private sector sponsors as part of the stay in school program. Next fall when the new national basketball association team opens up in Vancouver and Toronto the stay in school logo will be part of its promotion. It has become one of the major sponsors of the program.

It shows we are interested in maintaining the very valuable necessity of keeping our young people in school.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mrs. Rose-Marie Ur (Lambton—Middlesex, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, congratulations are in order to the hon. member for Restigouche—Chaleur on his private member's bill which will allow UI claimants to serve on jury duty without losing their benefits.

Could the Minister of Human Resources Development assure us that there will be no delay in implementing the measures and that individuals receiving UI will be immediately entitled to their benefits while serving on a jury?

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Human Resources Development and Minister of Western Economic Diversification, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I certainly join in congratulating the hon. member for Restigouche—Chaleur who for the first time has established a precedent. His private member's bill has not only received royal assent but royal recommendation for the spending of government money.

I am pleased to report to the House that with its passage yesterday in the Senate and the giving of royal assent, at two minutes past midnight this morning all persons asked to serve on jury duty who receive UI benefits can continue to collect them.

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PRESENCE IN GALLERY

The Speaker: I draw the attention of hon. members to the presence in the gallery of the Hon. Simon Upton, Minister for the Environment, Research, Science and Technology and Minister for Crown Research Institutes of New Zealand.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to 25 petitions.

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● (1505)

[English]

PETITIONS**HUMAN RIGHTS**

Mr. Gar Knutson (Elgin—Norfolk, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I have six petitions with a total of 471 names to present.

The petitioners are praying and requesting that Parliament not amend the human rights code, the Canadian Human Rights Act or the charter of rights and freedoms in any way that would tend to indicate societal approval of same sex relationships or homosexuality, including amending the human rights code to include in the prohibited grounds of discrimination the undefined phrase of sexual orientation.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Mr. Walt Lastewka (St. Catharines, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table a petition signed by over 2,000 Canadians from the Niagara peninsula, Hamilton, London, Burlington, Toronto and surrounding areas, and other Ontario cities.

The petitioners call on Parliament to condemn the actions of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in its application to televise the Paul Bernardo trial.

VIOLENT OFFENDERS

Mrs. Jan Brown (Calgary Southeast, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition in a course of action undertaken on behalf of constituents who wish to halt the early release of Robert Paul Thompson from prison.

The petitioners I represent are concerned about making the streets safer for citizens. They are opposed to the current practice of early release of violent offenders prior to serving the full extent of their sentences.

The petitioners pray that our streets will be made safer for law-abiding citizens and the families of the victims of convicted murders.

[Translation]

VOICE MAIL TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Paul Crête (Kamouraska—Rivière-du-Loup, BQ): Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition from citizens of Trois-Pistoles who consider that voice mail technology must be rejected, and who call upon Parliament to ask the government to