

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, February 20, 1990

The House met at 11 a.m.

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*Prayers*

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

### PETITIONS

#### GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's responses to eight petitions.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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[*Translation*]

### PETITIONS

#### TAX BENEFITS FOR NORTHERN AND ISOLATED AREAS

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I wish to table two petitions, one from Matagami and one from Lebel-sur-Quévillon, which reject the recommendations of the Tax Force on Tax Benefits for Northern and Isolated Areas.

Your petitioners, who represent the isolated areas of Matagami and Lebel-sur-Quévillon in the Abitibi area, feel that although isolation is mainly a psychological factor, it can be expressed in dollars and cents.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of these communities believe that the task force has failed to allow for the daily realities in the North and the near North in the Abitibi area.

[*English*]

#### CHILD CARE

**Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon—Souris):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today to table two petitions which have been signed by my constituents of Brandon—Souris. The first petition is from members of the Brandon University community, faculty and students alike. They call upon Parliament to urge the government to honour its commitment to child care and to provide a comprehensive quality, accessible and affordable child care program for Canada.

#### RIGHT TO LIFE

**Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon—Souris):** Mr. Speaker, the second petition is from a number of my constituents who indicate their support for Parliament enacting legislation which will protect human life from conception to natural death.

#### GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, I have the duty to table a petition which has been certified correct by the Clerk of Petitions.

This petition on budget day brings to the attention of this House the grave injustice that will be put on Canadians with this 7 per cent tax on goods and services. These petitioners would like to make sure the House knows that they object to this hidden tax, that they think this will cause serious and unfair hardship to low and middle-income Canadians, that the imposition of the GST will create an onerous burden on small business and that this is indeed an unprecedented tax grab from the pockets of Canadians that will not only mean higher taxes but will bring in higher inflation, higher interest rates and higher unemployment.

• (1110)

These petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the proposed goods and services tax.