

*Petitions*

restrict the ability of many people to buy necessary prescription drugs. It follows that the proposed amendments to the Patent Act will directly affect all Canadians who are not covered by private or governmental medicare programs, that the Government's proposal will raise the already high costs of provincial health care programs, and that the proposed Bill C-22 amendments to the Patent Act are another good example of the Canadian Government's concession to the United States in the current free trade negotiations, at the expense of ordinary consumers. Wherefor the petitioners humbly call upon Parliament to reject the Bill C-22 proposals which will surely increase prescription drug prices for Canadians.

[English]

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO UNEMPLOYMENT  
INSURANCE BENEFITS

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, it is my honour and duty today to present several petitions. The first petition is from residents of my constituency of Spadina. It concerns the subject of unemployment insurance.

The petitioners point out that the report of the Forget commission would end regional benefits and thus take \$1 billion in income transfers out of Quebec, \$660 million from the Atlantic and \$670 million out of the West; it would also cut out Government contributions to unemployment insurance benefits and, all in all, it would reduce the income of unemployed persons to less than \$140 a week in many cases.

Therefore the petitioners request Parliament to reject any legislation designed to eliminate federal contributions to the unemployment insurance program or to reduce unemployment insurance benefits to unemployed Canadians.

LOW-LEVEL FLIGHTS AT ARMED FORCES BASE AT GOOSE BAY

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** I have another petition from a number of residents of Toronto and municipalities adjoining Toronto. The petition concerns the Canadian Forces Base at Goose Bay, Labrador, and the low level flight training there of pilots of NATO countries. It points out that these training flights not only hurt the local ecology and disrupt the life of the people but are also a provocative and aggressive war fighting action which tends to endanger world peace.

Therefore these petitioners call upon Parliament to ensure that the Prime Minister will end all low level flight training at the Goose Bay Canadian Forces Base and cease negotiations with NATO for the establishment of a larger base there.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO FAIR ORAL HEARINGS BEFORE REFUGEE  
BOARD

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition from more than 100 Canadians from Toronto and adjoining areas in Ontario on the subject of refugees. The petitioners point out that in the past Canada had fairly good standards of refugee status determination but recent strains have broken it down and that the relevant committee of Parliament has proposed a new system which would be quicker

and fairer but that the Government has not yet taken action although this has support from the churches, the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Jewish Congress and other groups.

Therefore the petitioners call upon the Government and Parliament to enact legislation which will embody the principles of fair and complete oral hearings of claimants before a refugee board, independent of the Immigration Commission, for universal access to such hearings for every claimant in Canada and for a fair chance to arrive in Canada to present this claim.

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I have two petitions to present. The first petition is in regard to the regulations governing the entry of refugees and calls upon Parliament to enact legislation which would allow fair and quick oral hearings for refugee claimants who are trying to enter Canada.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** My second petition is in regard to the change in the Patent Act and calls upon Parliament to reject proposals which would increase the price of prescription drugs for Canadians, particularly senior citizens and those who require those drugs on a continuing basis.

**Mr. George Henderson (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, I have four petitions to present today. The first petition is signed on behalf of a number of residents from Rogersville, Ste. Anne, Black River Bridge and so on, in the Province of New Brunswick. The petitioners oppose the proposed changes to the Patent Act and maintain that this will directly increase the cost of prescription drugs in Canada.

I also have another petition on the same subject. It is signed by residents of Sydney, Cape Breton and Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The petitioners oppose the proposed changes to the Patent Act and humbly pray and call upon the Parliament of Canada to reject these proposals which will increase the price of prescription drugs for Canadians.

I have another petition from residents of Sydney, Glace Bay, Nova Scotia and the surrounding area. These petitioners also oppose the changes to the Patent Act which are being proposed by the Government in Bill C-22.

My fourth and last petition is signed by residents of Shediac Bridge and the surrounding area, and from Robichaud, New Brunswick. These petitioners also ask the Government not to go ahead with Bill C-22. They call upon Parliament to reject the proposals in Bill C-22 which will increase the price of prescription drugs for Canadians.

[Translation]

**Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West):** Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure and honour to present to the House three petitions signed by a number of Canadians of the Province of Ontario.