

*Petitions*

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Could I ask the Hon. Member to conclude as briefly as possible, please.

**Mrs. Finestone:** Mr. Speaker, these are very concerned citizens. I am pleased to present petitions from the ridings of Portneuf and Shefford in Quebec, as well as Broadview-Grennwood, Spadina and Thunder Bay-Nipigon. I have two petitions as well from extremely unhappy people in Kitchener and Toronto, Ontario.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Saint-Maurice):** Mr. Speaker, the constituents of the lovely riding of Saint-Maurice have been calling me at my office, insisting that their Member rise in the House to present petitions on behalf of the electoral district of Saint-Maurice.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of the riding of Saint-Maurice respectfully state that the Government programs providing family allowances and the child tax credit are vitally needed by families with children, and that a large proportion of these families are headed by single parents, who form one of the most disadvantaged groups in our society.

And they therefore humbly pray that this petition be tabled in the House of Commons. I think I will dispense with reading all the names mentioned in this petition, since I would not want to take up too much of the time of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I have another one from the riding of Saint-Maurice, because these constituents are very disappointed with the Government's attitude. They have asked me to present another petition on the same subject. Family allowances are extremely important to the people of the riding of Saint-Maurice and the residents of all neighbouring ridings including Trois-Rivières . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Another petition on the same subject?

**Mr. Chrétien:** I would like to table a petition on family allowances. Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to lay on the Table of the House another petition from the people of the riding of Saint-Maurice.

I even received a petition in my office from residents of the riding of Moose Jaw in Saskatchewan, Mr. Speaker. They sent me a petition that—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I don't think I have to explain our practice with respect to petitions for the benefit of the former Minister. Has the Hon. Member for Saint-Maurice almost finished?

[English]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, the people from Moose Jaw have written a petition asking the Government not to proceed with this disgraceful legislation which will take bread away from their children. They are humbly asking me to present to

Your Honour here this afternoon this petition of concerned citizens from the beautiful City of Moose Jaw in the beautiful Province of Saskatchewan.

[Translation]

**Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau):** Mr. Speaker, I would also like to present to this House petitions sent by residents of various constituencies. I have a very special one from the federal constituency of Manicouagan, represented by the Prime Minister, whose residents object to the decision of the Government not to provide full indexation of family allowances and the child tax credit. I have been asked to present this petition to this House in the hope of convincing the Government to reverse this very unfortunate decision.

I also want to present a petition on the same subject from residents of the federal constituency of Charlesbourg. I also have a petition from residents of the federal constituency of Saint-Hyacinthe. I have another petition from residents of the federal constituency of Verchères. I also want to present a petition from residents of the federal constituency of Louis-Hébert, Mr. Speaker. I also have a petition sent to me by residents of the federal constituency of La Prairie. Also, Mr. Speaker, I have a petition on the same subject presented for the same reasons by residents of the federal constituency of Terrebonne.

Finally—

**Mr. Speaker:** I must ask the Hon. Member to be as brief as possible, please.

**Mr. Ouellet:** I shall hurry, Mr. Speaker, but the least I can do is to point out that this petition comes from residents of the federal constituency of Rosemont. I have another one from the federal constituency of Berthier-Maskinongé-Lanaudière.

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. May I invite the Hon. Member to file with the Table the rest of his petitions?

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg-Fort Garry):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present petitions from a grand coalition of people across this country who deeply protest the injustice of this Government and the victimization of children and families as contained in the present legislation. My first petition is on behalf of the very wonderful people in the constituencies of Saskatoon East and Saskatoon West in the Province of Saskatchewan. Accompanying those petitions are petitions from the federal constituency of Victoria which is in the Province of British Columbia. They too protest this injustice perpetrated by the Government.

Quickly jumping from Victoria to parts of central Canada with which you would be most familiar, there is a large petition from people in the City of Toronto, a place which you dearly adore and love—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Could we have the petitions without the travelogue?