

Routine Proceedings

RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMING

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): My other petition, Mr. Speaker, asks Parliament to ensure that the CRTC monitors very closely the use of foul language on radio and television. They point out that it is not necessary to use that type of language to inform or entertain.

The petitioners point out as well that it counteracts efforts of the family in this regard.

CHRISTINE LAMONT AND DAVID SPENCER

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition which is signed by residents of Kamloops, Vancouver, Burnaby and other cities and municipalities in British Columbia which notes that two Canadians, Christine Lamont and David Spencer, who have been sentenced to 28 years each in a Brazilian prison, have suffered miscarriages of justice, cruel and unusual treatment in Brazilian prisons and discrimination in sentencing and parole.

The petition notes that the only relief which is available from their severe punishment is for Canada to request expulsion in accordance with Brazilian law.

Therefore, the petitioners call upon Parliament to urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs to request the Government of Brazil to expel Christine Lamont and David Spencer and return them to Canada.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Ian Waddell (Port Moody—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, I have one other petition. It is signed by a number of people from Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. The petitioners ask Parliament to amend the Income Tax Act to allow all wage earners to be eligible for the goods and services tax rebate, regardless of age, because taxpayers under 19 years of age cannot get the rebate while awaiting the repeal of the tax itself.

Mr. Duhamel: Mr. Speaker, I was wondering if I could get unanimous consent to go back to Private Members' Business because there is a bill I wish to introduce.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Does the hon. member have unanimous consent?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

PENSION ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-352, an act to amend the Pension Act (pension commencement date).

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Duhamel: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for the unanimous consent.

This bill is based on a basic fundamental principle which is as follows. If a citizen owes the government money, the government can come at any time and collect that money, obviously according to the laws and procedures which exist. There are a number of programs to which citizens are entitled, particularly in the domain of pensions where it does not work that way, where retroactivity exists for a very limited period of time.

The intent of this bill is to ensure that retroactivity is permitted when a citizen merits a particular pension and he or she did not ask for it at a particular point in time, perhaps because of lack of knowledge. That is the intent. Hopefully, we could look at other areas besides this one later.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Mr. Duhamel moves that the bill be now read the first time and printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and printed.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it agreed?