Routine Proceedings

Canada's tax policy taxes child support payments unlike what we see in the United States, Australia, Britain, Sweden, and many other countries of the world.

While the average child support order covers less than half the minimum cost of raising a child, up to one—third or more of the support payments that are meant to help feed and clothe children are taken away in taxes.

This private member's bill will alleviate this injustice and will work to bring fairness into our tax system, particularly as it relates to the future of our children.

I might add that I am paralleling this private member's bill with my private member's motion. The issue is relevant and this injustice to our nation's children must be corrected.

(Motions deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

PETITIONS

CRIMINAL CODE

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I have two petitions signed by about 40 constituents of mine.

The first petition deals with the sanctity of human life. The petitioners pray that Parliament ensure that the present provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada prohibiting assisted suicide be enforced vigorously and that Parliament make no change in the law which would sanction or allow the aiding or abetting of suicide or active or passive euthanasia.

The second petition deals with the sanctity of life but for a different reason. The petitioners pray that Parliament act immediately to protect the unborn child by amending the Criminal Code to extend the same protection enjoyed by born human beings to unborn human beings.

PORT OF CHURCHILL

Mr. Elijah Harper (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the honour to present certified petitions from over 100 of my constituents and others in support of the increased use of the port of Churchill.

The port of Churchill is an untapped national resource. The petitioners call on Parliament to direct the hon. minister responsible for the wheat board to maximize the port's use and to ship at least 5 per cent of Canada's annual grain shipments through the port.

The Canadians who built the port and the railway to Churchill had a vision of Canada and of the north. I join the petitioners in hoping that this vision can live on.

• (1510

ETHANOL

Mr. Jerry Pickard (Essex—Kent): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on ethanol. The ethanol industry will certainly create a boon for the agricultural industry. Ethanol is one of the most environmentally friendly fuels available.

Residents in the Chatham, Essex and Kent county areas are very concerned that the government show a consideration on taxation with regard to ethanol.

They humbly ask the Parliament of Canada to allow a decade of tax allowance in order that the industry may get under way. The economic values to the industry are far greater than the tax costs.

Mr. Pat O'Brien (London—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, I too rise in the House today to present a petition in support of ethanol as a fuel. Its time has come in Ontario.

Some 200 petitioners call on the government to extend the exemption on the excise portion of ethanol for a decade to allow the strong and self-sufficient ethanol industry in Canada to go forward.

I present this petition on their behalf.

Mrs. Rose-Marie Ur (Lambton—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am pleased to present on behalf of the constituents of Lambton—Middlesex and area a petition which has been duly certified by the clerk of petitions.

It requests Parliament to maintain the present exemption on the excise portion of ethanol for a decade, allowing for a strong and self-sufficient ethanol industry in Canada to go forward.

[Translation]

OUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Hon. Fernand Robichaud (Secretary of State (Parliamentary Affairs)): Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Deputy Speaker: Does the House agree?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Hon. Fernand Robichaud (Secretary of State (Parliamentary Affairs)): Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that all notices of motions for the production of papers be allowed to stand.

The Deputy Speaker: Does the House agree?