

Routine Proceedings

The first group of petitioners request that the Government of Canada not amend the human rights act to include the phrase sexual orientation. The petitioners fear that such an inclusion could lead to homosexuals receiving the same benefits and societal privileges as married couples.

BILL C-41

Mr. Ed Harper (Simcoe Centre, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, the second petition involves section 718.2 of Bill C-41. The petitioners are concerned that naming some groups in legislation will exclude other groups from protection and that sentencing based on the concept of hatred is very subjective and will undermine our justice system.

TAXATION

Mr. Ed Harper (Simcoe Centre, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, the third and final petition from my riding contains 474 signatures. It was collected by small businessmen from my riding including Mr. Garry Valley, Mr. John Ough, Mr. Barry Bertram, Dr. Devon Smith, Mr. Bryan Greig, Mrs. Jean Baker Pearce, and Mr. Paul Jamieson.

The petitioners request that with Canadians already overburdened with taxation due to high government spending, Parliament reduce government spending instead of increasing taxes.

THE DEFICIT

Mr. Jag Bhaduria (Markham—Whitchurch—Stouffville, Ind. Lib.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36 I am presenting a petition signed by petitioners in the Markham—Whitchurch—Stouffville area.

These petitioners call on Parliament to reduce the deficit by cutting wastage and reduce the overall expenses in every government department by at least 5 per cent.

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by approximately 200 people. They are concerned about the morale in the Canadian forces.

The decision to disband the Canadian airborne regiment brought the forces under intense media and public scrutiny.

They would like a thorough and fully disclosed investigation. They feel that this would result in the public being better informed about the Canadian military's condition and contribution to our country's internal and external stature and well-being.

They petition Parliament to initiate at the earliest time a wide ranging public inquiry into the problems facing the Canadian forces today.

ARMENIA

Mr. Sarkis Assadourian (Don Valley North, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, it is my pleasure to

present to this House petitions signed by 100 Canadians living in North York, Scarborough, Richmond Hill, in the metro Toronto area.

These petitioners ask the House to recognize and condemn the Turkish genocide of the Armenians. This year they will be commemorating the 80th anniversary of the genocide and they ask this House for similar recognition as was done by the Israel, Russia, France and Uruguay parliaments. As well, the parliaments of Quebec and Ontario recognize this crime against humanity.

• (1515)

JUSTICE

Mrs. Jan Brown (Calgary Southeast, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I rise again to present another petition in this course of action I have undertaken on behalf of constituents who wish to halt the early release from prison of Robert Paul Thompson.

The petitioners I represent are concerned about making our streets safer for our citizens. They are opposed to the current practice of early release of violent offenders prior to them serving the full extent of their sentences.

The petitioners pray that our streets will be made safer for law-abiding citizens, their families and the families of the victims of crime.

YOUNG OFFENDERS

Mr. Charlie Penson (Peace River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I have two petitions I would like to present today.

The first petition is signed by 788 people and deals with the subject of young offenders. Canadian citizens from coast to coast are calling for changes to the Young Offenders Act. They want an act that is serious enough to deter young people from committing crimes and tough enough to provide real justice.

Therefore, the petitioners request that Parliament undertake a complete and thorough review of existing legislation to address their concerns.

INCOME TAX

Mr. Charlie Penson (Peace River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, the second petition is signed by 88 people from my riding. The petitioners believe they are already overburdened with taxation due to high government spending.

Therefore they request Parliament reduce government spending instead of raising taxes. I endorse that petition.

GUN CONTROL

Mr. Leon E. Benoit (Vegreville, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am delighted to present four petitions on behalf of 1,880 constituents of Vegreville constituency.

In all four petitions, it is recognized that public safety is the number one priority of the criminal justice system. It is also