

*Petitions*

very clear that that is not viewed by the Chair as any type of precedent. I might share with Members my view of precedent. It is not the automatic following of something that has been done once. I want to assure the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary that if something can be worked out here, the Chair will not feel that it is any type of precedent. I do understand and appreciate the support of the Parliamentary Secretary for maintenance, under those circumstances, to the ordered way of doing things. I know that the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy) feels the same way.

I am only suggesting to the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary and the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre that perhaps they could have a quick consultation, and it might be the disposition of the House to come back in a few minutes and revert to this matter. If there is a general disposition to go along with something, I do not want to see it stopped for any narrow grounds. I am in the hands of the House. The Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre.

**Mr. Cassidy:** Mr. Speaker, I agree that that is the most constructive way to proceed. Therefore, I withdraw my request for consent at this time pending consultations with the Parliamentary Secretary. We will do that right away.

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### PETITIONS

#### REQUEST FOR NECESSARY GOVERNMENT ACTION TO INCREASE HOUSING FOR THE NEEDY

**Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy—Royal):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a number of concerned citizens of Sussex, New Brunswick, I wish to present a petition.

My constituents pray that the Parliament of Canada will act to establish necessary measures to ensure that the homeless and poorly lodged Canadians live in adequate and healthy housing, and have access to a variety of rehabilitation programs in order to reintegrate into Canadian society.

The Canadian Council on Social Development has indicated that 100,000 people were homeless sometime during 1986, that there are increasing numbers joining those ranks, and that soup kitchens are not an adequate response. I petition the House of Commons on behalf of the petitioners that something be done to alleviate the situation.

#### CANADA POST—OPPOSITION TO CORPORATE PLAN

**Mr. Lee Clark (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition on behalf of a number of residents of Portage—Marquette, my neighbouring riding, and particularly those who reside in the Riding Mountain area and neighbouring communities.

Understandably, the petitioners are concerned about reduction in postal service in their area, and petition Parliament on behalf of all who reside in that area, with the request that Canada Post should not reduce service to rural communities, and that rural Canadians should not in any way be treated inequitably by that Crown corporation.

#### MANDATORY INSTALLATION IN CARS OF AIRBAGS AND THREE-POINT SEATBELTS

**Mr. Bill Vankoughnet (Hastings—Frontenac—Lennox and Addington):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by hundreds of constituents of the federal constituency of Hastings—Frontenac—Lennox and Addington who are asking for changes in our road safety regulations.

The petitioners believe that rear seatbelts in passenger cars are inadequate, and that the suffering of crash victims could be reduced or avoided through improved seatbelts. They also believe that medical care costs can be reduced or eliminated.

For those reasons, the petitioners urge the Government to make a commitment with respect to the mandatory installation of adjustable shoulder safety belts for all rear seat passenger cars, and the installation of airbags for front seat passengers.

#### PROPOSED FREE TRADE

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present petitions signed by 40 residents of Thunder Bay who say that the Conservative Government had no mandate from the Canadian people to conclude a free trade agreement with the United States.

The petitioners feel that the trade agreement negotiated by the Mulroney Government threatens the very fabric of the Canadian political and economic sovereignty by removing the power of the Canadian Government to effectively control foreign ownership, to develop Canadian energy resources in the best interests of Canadians, or to equalize opportunities between the regions.

Therefore the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to dissolve and allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject the proposed free trade agreement during a national general election.

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, like my colleague, I have several petitions which deal with the question of free trade.

The first petition points out various inadequacies of the trade agreement, and it concludes that the petitioners humbly call upon this Government to allow Parliament to dissolve and permit the people of Canada to have their say during a national election. It is signed by residents of Thunder Bay.

The second petition is also signed by residents of Thunder Bay and it makes the same points. It indicates quite clearly the sense of concern of those people with this issue.