

*Routine Proceedings*

These citizens of Glengarry—Prescott—Russell are particularly displeased with the fact that the federal government, earlier this year, embarked on a plan to cap the price of industrial milk in Canada. I might add that the representations of the dairy farmers of my constituency and elsewhere have been so successful that the government has already backtracked on a good portion of that awful scheme that they had embarked on previously.

I am pleased to table this petition on behalf of my constituents and I totally support their petition as well.

## VIA RAIL

**Mr. Ron Fisher (Saskatoon—Dundurn):** Madam Speaker, I stand pursuant to Standing Order 36 with a bona fide petition presented by people from the lower mainland as well, decrying what this government is doing to VIA passenger rail service in the country. They are asking the government to change its mind and provide the kind of service to Canadians that we need, with the kind of equipment we need, and with the modern kind of service that is certainly possible and needed within this country.

**Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands):** Madam Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 to present a petition signed by residents of Vancouver Island, from Victoria to Campbell River, who are very concerned with the elimination of VIA Rail passenger transportation, especially on Vancouver Island.

They point out in this petition that the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada said that the federal government has the responsibility to ensure that rail passenger service in Canada be retained, modernized and expanded. They are somewhat reassured now that there are going to be public hearings on rail transportation in Canada.

**Mr. Robert D. Nault (Kenora—Rainy River):** Madam Speaker, it is my honour and pleasure to present this petition under Standing Order 36. It is the same petition that a number of members have been submitting to this House. It relates to the dismantling of VIA Rail passenger service, the mode of transportation that really should be the transportation mode of the future.

I would like the members opposite to realize that we will continue to bring forward these petitions as there are many, many people who are now becoming aware that their rail passenger service will be taken away from them. We expect to see many more in the future.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Madam Speaker, I have the honour of presenting a petition signed by 88 voters from across Canada and especially from Kingston and the Islands.

[*English*]

The petition calls upon Parliament to avoid cuts in VIA Rail passenger service in Canada and reflects in its preamble the importance that VIA Rail passenger service has had to Canada, both to the tourist industry and to national unity, and calls upon Parliament to avoid any such cuts.

**Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan):** Madam Speaker, it is my honour as well to present a petition from residents of the lower mainland of B.C., calling upon the government, as do many others, to maintain the passenger rail service on Vancouver Island and in Canada as a whole, and not only to maintain it but to provide the funding necessary to upgrade this service so that it will truly contribute to the passenger service in Canada. I urge the government to listen to these petitioners.

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### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader):** Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 111 and 112.

[*Text*]

#### COMMUNICATIONS POSTAL SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Question No. 111—**Mrs. Finestone:**

For the fiscal years (a) 1985–86 (b) 1986–87 (c) 1987–88 (d) 1988–89, was any money paid under the Department of Communications Postal Subsidy Program to the Canada Post Corporation for mail mailed by (i) government departments (ii) Crown Corporations (iii) provincial government departments (iv) provincial crown corporations (v) municipal governments and, if so, in each case, in what amount?