

*S. O. 31*

To date, with our help more than 600,000 Canadians have petitioned this government to stop the GST. Now, the Liberals are giving Canadians from coast to coast a chance to say no to the GST.

Starting Monday, March 12 through to Friday, March 16 Canadians can vote against the GST by dialling 1-900-720-6052, 24 hours a day. That is right. Starting Monday, March 12 through Friday, March 16 for a mere 50-cent toll charge, Canadians can tell this government no to the GST by dialling 1-900-720-6052.

The Liberals once again take the lead in giving all Canadians an opportunity to tell this government that they reject the biggest, most obscene tax grab in Canadian history, the goods and services tax, by calling 1-900-720-6052. Let us give this government the message, "axe the tax".

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**GOODS AND SERVICES TAX**

**Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton):** Mr. Speaker, the replacement of the structurally flawed and antiquated federal sales tax is being welcomed with open arms by manufacturers all across Canada. In light of the superficial criticism by others, our Canadian manufacturers see it as the righting of a historic wrong. After all, they have been discriminated against under the existing system for some 65 years.

The implementation of the GST will remove the built-in competitive bias of the existing system, increase capital investment and enhance our ability to compete internationally, according to Mr. Jordan Sullivan, President of Strong Equipment of Woodbridge, Ontario.

Armchair opponents of the goods and services tax should revisit their cursory arguments. Certainly an important initiative such as the GST which will provide an instant 1 per cent to 3 per cent price savings for our manufacturing sector should not be a target for shallow criticism.

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• (1410)

**THE BUDGET**

**Mr. Ken Hughes (Macleod):** Mr. Speaker, this government is taking important steps to control spending,

manage the economy and to invest in the very future of this country. This affects all Canadians.

But let us be realistic. How much control of our affairs will we have if we do not deal with our national mortgage? How much control do we have over our destiny if we owe our souls to foreigners? This government is fighting hard to control spending and regain the very sovereignty lost under the years of fiscal indifference and mismanagement of one Pierre Elliott Trudeau and the Liberal Party of Canada.

If Canada loses its sovereignty and its ability to control its own house, the blame will clearly rest with the seeds and growth of fiscal mismanagement of the Trudeau era.

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**GOODS AND SERVICES TAX**

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, the Tory government is jealous of the popularity of the Liberal Party. It has come up with a new way of recruiting members. Indeed, large numbers of Canadians have taken over riding association executives of Alberta Tory members. They have obviously not done so in order to join the Conservative party, but, indeed, to defeat the government goods and services tax.

By going totally beyond responsible limits of taxation and complexity, and by showing its disregard for the desire of over two-third of the electorate, the government has forced otherwise calm, law-abiding citizens to stand up and say, enough is enough. They have told the government in no uncertain terms, no to the GST.

In addition to phoning the number 1-900-720-6052 in order to oppose the GST, citizens across this country are ready to do almost anything to oppose the GST, including buying membership cards—heaven forbid—in the Conservative party.

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**THE BUDGET**

**Mr. Lee Richardson (Calgary Southeast):** Mr. Speaker, this government was elected six years ago with one vital objective, to get control of our nation's expenses. This objective had and has priority over all others because it must. Any other objective cannot be considered, advanced or planned without first having the dollars to do it.