

Routine Proceedings

These constituents and petitioners are concerned about deregulation in the airline industry.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Mr. Ross Harvey (Edmonton East): Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to rise, under Standing Order 36, to present a petition signed by 2,650 residents, principally of Calgary but, as well, other parts of Alberta and indeed across Canada.

The petitioners' prayer has to do with prevention of and punishing of acts of obscene cruelty to animals. The prayer states:

WHEREFORE the undersigned, your Petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to recognize society's abhorrence of acts of cruelty and violence against animals and amend the Criminal Code of Canada to change Sections 401 and 402 into hybrid offences within the absolute jurisdiction of the provincial court judge, thereby allowing the Crown the option of proceeding by indictment; and raise the penalty for such offences to a maximum of four years' imprisonment.

These people are speaking to the House from the heart. I pray we hear them.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present two petitions. The first one is with respect to the goods and services tax and is signed by a number of residents from the northern area of my riding, including the communities of Viscount, Young, and Watrous.

The petitioners indicate that they are opposed to the goods and services tax. They state that the government has not addressed the unfair taxation system currently in place which permits wealthy individuals and corporations to pay little or no federal tax while forcing lower and middle-income taxpayers to bear more of the national tax burden.

The petitioners call upon the government to withdraw this tax and to ensure that, if and when there is a broad public consensus on a sales tax measure to replace the manufacturers' sales tax, this reform not be an opportunity for the government to impose a massive tax-grab.

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): I also have a petition, Mr. Speaker, signed by a number of

farmers from Saskatchewan who are very concerned about the future of the Canadian Wheat Board.

They are upset that the government has chosen to remove oats from the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board and call upon the government to reinstate oats under the jurisdiction of the Wheat Board and to give oats and barley the same protection that wheat now enjoys, namely that neither of the commodities could be removed unless removed so by Parliament.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan): Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise under Standing Order 36 to present petitions signed by a number of people in my riding.

The petitioners point out that it is the first time since Confederation that the Government of Canada proposes to tax the printed word and argue that uninhibited dissemination of the printed word is a corner-stone of democracy, culture, education, and a literate and productive society.

The petitioners pray that Parliament will reaffirm the historic principles embodied in tax-free status for the printed word.

Mr. Jack Whittaker (Okanagan—Similkameen—Merritt): Mr. Speaker, the fight goes on. I have had the pleasure of presenting petitions from coast to coast against the goods and services tax, from my riding of Okanagan—Similkameen—Merritt and many other areas of Canada.

This time I rise on behalf of the people of Kapuskasing to implore the government to see the error of its ways, as asked by the petitioners, and scrap the goods and services tax, bringing in a tax that is fairer to all Canadians.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Pierre H. Vincent (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Shall all questions stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.