

[English]

BILL C-122

REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Bill Attewell (Markham—Whitchurch—Stouffville): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-122, an act to amend the customs tariff, textile tariff reduction.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURE

THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. J. W. Bud Bird (Fredericton—York—Sunbury): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the third report of the Standing Committee on Communications and Culture in relation to violence on television.

This report arises from two orders of reference from the House, one in November as a result of a petition presented to this House by Virginie Larivière of Quebec containing more than 1.3 million signatures expressing concerns about violence on television in Canada, and another on February 12, 1992 arising from a motion by the hon. member for Regina—Wascana calling for a review of media portrayal of violence in Canada, especially with respect to women and children, and seeking better ways to protect innocent Canadians while not unduly restricting freedom of expression.

In response to these two orders of reference our committee has made a series of recommendations. They call for voluntary regulation and control of television portrayal of violence by the broadcasting industry and individual Canadians, measures to empower Canadians with a wider selection of education information about media literacy with new technology to control television sets and channels, and a new national classification system for television programming and video films. All of this will help Canadians with a better quality of choice for television programs on behalf of themselves and their children.

Routine Proceedings

I would particularly like to pay tribute to the hon. member for Outremont for his work in chairing the subcommittee that drafted this report.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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COPYRIGHT ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-442, an act to amend the Copyright Act.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Kaplan: Madam Speaker, under the Canadian Copyright Act, which follows a British precedent several hundred years old, the copyright of documents which are issued by the government including statutes, for example, are the private property of the Crown. Anyone who copies them theoretically and legally is responsible to pay a royalty for them.

This is inconsistent with the practice in most other countries and the purpose of this proposed law is to abolish the Crown copyright and make public documents public property.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Mr. Kaplan moves that the bill be now read the first time and printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and printed.

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CANADA WATER EXPORT PROHIBITION ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-443, an act to prohibit the export of water by interbasin transfers.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

• (1515)

Mr. Riis: Madam Speaker, this bill has the enthusiastic support of the member for Okanagan—Similkameen—Merritt and the member for Prince George—Bulkley Valley.