

*Routine Proceedings***HOUSE MANAGEMENT**

28TH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present the 28th report of the Standing Committee on House Management.

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

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PETITIONS

VIA RAIL

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan): Madam Speaker, I rise today to present a series of petitions signed by over 300 residents of northwestern Ontario, Red Rock, Nipigon, Schreiber, Terrace Bay, Marathon, Heron Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay.

All of those citizens lost their rail services two years ago. They call upon Parliament to support the NDP plan to restore VIA Rail service cut on January 15, 1990, particularly those services eliminated along the north shore of Lake Superior, maintain and upgrade Ontario's services upon which many residents rely, provide a legislative mandate for VIA Rail and make available to VIA the resources it needs to become a modern passenger rail system in a class with those throughout the rest of the western world.

I hope the government is listening.

JUSTICE

Mr. Bill Domm (Peterborough): Madam Speaker, since August 1991, colleagues of mine have been presenting large numbers of petitions in the House dealing with the Nina de Villiers murder in August 1991.

Today I have 24 sheets signed by petitioners who claim that the current criminal law does not require bail hearings in crimes of violence to be presided over by judges and that the risk to society posed by the early release of a violent offender appears to be of secondary consideration to the rights of the individual criminal.

Therefore, your petitioners request that Parliament recognize that crimes of violence against the person are serious and abhorrent to society and amend the Criminal Code of Canada, the Bail Reform Act of 1972 and the Parole Act accordingly.

I humbly present these petitions to Parliament.

[*Translation*]

HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. Phillip Edmonston (Chambly): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the honour to present a petition signed by electors in Quebec who deplore the fact that for over half a century there has been an illegal trade in Haitian workers between Haiti and the Dominican Republic and that these human beings, who are treated like cattle, are confined within the *bateys* and obliged to cut sugar cane under conditions that fly in the face of human rights.

Consequently your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to urge the government to impose diplomatic, political and economic sanctions on the Dominican Republic, until such time as the rights of these Haitian *braceros* and their families are respected in accordance with the universal declaration of human rights.

• (1520)

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Mr. George S. Rideout (Moncton): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the pleasure to present two petitions from hundreds of residents all across the country, petitioning Parliament to urge the Secretary of State for External Affairs to request the government of Brazil to expel Christine Lamont and David Spencer and return them to Canada.

TAXATION

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): I have the honour to present two petitions in the name of my constituents.

On the first one, my petitioners indicate that the government is denying equal financial benefits to those who are at home caring for their children as opposed to those who have received day care receipts and they want that corrected.

They wanted, as well, that married couples enjoy the same tax benefits and opportunities as common-law couples, but that has changed in the reverse direction in the last budget. They deplore the fact there are many programs that are often confusing and work against the family. They would like to see all of this changed.