

Routine Proceedings

many hundreds of names on it organized by the National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation.

The petitioners wish to draw to the attention of the House that many Canadians experience serious housing problems and that the Government of Canada terminated the federal Co-operative Housing Program on February 25, 1992. This action has eliminated 2,000 new co-op housing units for 1992 alone, along with 4,000 construction and manufacturing jobs for the same period and that there are approximately 164,000 rental households who want to move into co-op housing due to the success of the program in creating affordable, stable and mixed income communities.

• (1230)

Therefore, the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to urge the government to reinstate the federal co-op housing program immediately and to commit the \$6.1 million to the program which had been planned for 1992 to permit approximately 2,000 co-op housing units to be sponsored this year.

NORTHERN TAX ALLOWANCE

Mr. Len Taylor (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, I have two different petitions to present today. I am pleased to present more petitions signed by residents of the rural municipality of Beaver River and the communities of Pierceland and Goodsoil in northwest Saskatchewan.

The petitions concern the northern tax allowance and outline these residents' frustrations with the errors made by Revenue Canada in interpreting how the benefit affects them.

The petitioners ask that the government and the Minister of National Revenue review the recent ruling of the Tax Court of Canada which returned the benefits to only some residents of the area eligible for the northern tax allowance. The petitioners ask the minister to change this policy so that all residents who are otherwise eligible will be treated fairly.

BILL C-91

Mr. Len Taylor (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, I am also pleased to present today petitions signed by another 668 residents of northwest Saskatchewan who want the government to withdraw Bill C-91, the legislation that will allow brand name

prescription drug companies to market their drugs without competition from generic drugs for periods of up to 20 years.

With these signatures from residents of the communities such as The Battlefords, Speers, Meadow Lake, Shell Lake, Wilkie and Canwood, the total number of signatures I have now presented from residents of the constituency I represent total 1,700.

I am in agreement with the concerns raised by these petitioners and I join them in asking the government to withdraw Bill C-91.

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[*Translation*]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): I suggest, Madam Speaker, that all questions be allowed to stand.

[*English*]

Mr. Skelly (Comox—Alberni): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have had two questions on the Order Paper, Nos. 283 and 284, since April 1, 1992, close to eight months. Although I requested an answer to those questions in 45 days, the minister has refused to answer.

I would therefore give notice under Standing Order 39(5)(b), that I intend to transfer Question No. 283 and to raise the subject matter thereof under the adjournment motion of the House. I do hope the minister will then see fit to answer Question No. 284.

Madam Deputy Speaker: As far as Question No. 283 is concerned, our rules do provide for such a procedure. It is agreed and so ordered.

Mr. Edwards: Madam Speaker, I did have a conversation with the hon. member earlier this week. I told him that best efforts were being made to get him answers to both questions.

It is his right to have the first matter transferred for debate and I understand that now will happen.

I regret that I was not able to deliver on my best efforts by the end of this week, but I can assure him that there is no refusal on the part of the minister. It is a matter of processing the appropriate paper, and every effort is