

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the Government's response to Petitions Nos. 332-1212, 332-1266, 332-1275, 332-1301, 332-1510, 332-1514 and 332-1521.

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AIR CANADA

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT, 1986

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Air Canada's fiftieth anniversary I am pleased to table in our two official languages its annual report for 1986.

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COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL—PRESENTATION OF SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Rob Nicholson (Niagara Falls): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the second report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Solicitor General on the review of the report and recommendations of the 1986 Commission on Judges Salaries and Benefits.

[Translation]

STRIKING COMMITTEE—PRESENTATION OF NINETEENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Scott Fennell (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the nineteenth report of the Striking Committee.

(For above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.)

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[English]

PETITIONS

EFFECT OF FREE TRADE ON AUTO PACT—RETENTION OF SAFEGUARDS

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, I have a set of four petitions dealing with the question of the

Petitions

Auto Pact. These four petitions add to the previous petitions on this issue which have come from my constituency.

At this particular stage we have a total of 2,258 additional names of people indicating their severe concern about the thousands of jobs that could be lost to our area and many parts of Canada if the safeguards in the Auto Pact are eliminated. The petitioners pray that the Government will defend these safeguards in any free trade talks and see to it that the Auto Pact is maintained intact.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO FAIR ORAL HEARINGS BEFORE REFUGEE BOARD

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, I have a number of other petitions to present. The first comes from Pickering and Kingston and deals with the question of refugee determination.

The petition stresses the unhappiness of the petitioners with recent government moves which run in the face of the position of our churches across Canada, that refugee determination should be carried out as expeditiously as possible within this country.

The petition concludes that the Government and Parliament should enact legislation to embody a principle of fair and quick oral hearings of refugee claimants before a refugee board, independent of the Immigration Commission. It also calls for universal access to such hearings for every claimant in Canada.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition which comes from the area of Edmonton, Alberta, and expresses the very strong unhappiness of many westerners in that city about Bill C-22, which is attempting to make changes to the patent legislation in this country which, in the opinion of the petitioners, will dramatically increase the level of drug prices in this country both for individuals and provincial Governments.

● (1220)

The petitioners also see this proposed change as an example of Government concessions to the United States in the context of free trade negotiations.

My final petition deals with the same subject but comes in this case from British Columbia. The petition presents as strong a case for this Parliament to listen to the thousands, indeed, close to a million voices which have now been heard on this serious issue.

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I have eight petitions signed by hundreds of constituents who humbly declare that the monopoly granted to innovative pharmaceutical companies will prevent competition from less expensive generic drugs which, as we know, will result in an increase in drug prices for Canadian consumers and severely