

Routine Proceedings

from Chase, British Columbia, Kamloops, British Columbia and from a number of other western Canadian cities.

Their concern is having read the NAFTA, the North American free trade agreement, it would appear that fresh water was not made an exemption to the deal. They are asking the government to explicitly say that fresh water is exempt from NAFTA because they are concerned that this government is agreeing to sell water in terms of inter-basin transfers to the United States and Mexico.

As a comfort they are asking the government, for goodness sake, to exempt fresh water from this particular trade deal.

BILL C-91

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present a petition from hundreds of Canadians across the country who ask this government to end Bill C-91 which seeks to licence further no name generic drugs in Canada and will allow brand name drug companies to market their drugs without competition from generics for periods up to 20 years.

They say that the price of new and existing drugs already increased substantially to individuals, to provincial and private drug plans since 1987 when the Liberals brought in Bill C-22 which allowed up to a 10-year period of no generic competition.

Therefore, these petitioners call on Parliament not to proceed with Bill C-91 and to also repeal Bill C-22 so that Canadians will have the full benefit from lower priced generic drugs and so that provincial and private drug plans can serve Canadians without being forced to charge higher fees or provide less coverage.

POVERTY

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am pleased on behalf of a number of Canadians from Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, the rest of Atlantic Canada and Quebec to draw the attention of the House to the fact that hundreds of thousands of Canadian senior citizens live below the poverty line and that over 80 per cent of single women over the age of 65 live in poverty.

The petitioners call upon Parliament to urge the government to ensure that Canadian old age security pensions are sufficient to meet the basic needs of Canadian senior citizens.

EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and duty to rise in accordance with Standing Order 36 to present a petition signed by 66 of my constituents in the Salmon Cove area, Perry's Cove, Adams Cove, Broad Cove or what is called the north shore of my riding in the Carbonear area.

They have asked that consideration be given to those who are employed outside the fisheries seeking employment. They are bringing to the House notice of the tough economic times in their area and the difficulty they have in finding employment.

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to provide them with guidance and in particular with assistance in finding employment.

• (1520)

NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition that has been signed by a number of Canadians. I think the message is very clear.

They call upon Parliament to reject legislation implementing the North American free trade agreement, NAFTA.

I believe that is a very simple message and I hope all parliamentarians will listen to it.

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, I too have a significant number of signatures on a petition from my constituents endorsing precisely the same message that my colleague has presented to the House.

That is a very straightforward message which says to this Parliament that it urges us very strongly to reject legislation implementing the North American free trade agreement. The strong view of my constituents is that this agreement will make a bad situation worse. It will hurt jobs in this country. For that reason we are asked to reject any such legislation.

GASOLINE PRICES

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present another petition signed by