

Routine Proceedings

A condominium corporation is represented here, a high rise apartment building which is rented primarily to seniors, and the full population of one entire street. I think that is representative of the proportion of Canadians who feel that they want Parliament to reject the goods and services tax. They are concerned about its impact on their spending powers. As consumers they are concerned about its impact on the economy of the country and the future of their families.

Mrs. Beryl Gaffney (Nepean): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present, pursuant to Standing Order 36, the signatures of several hundred people from my riding of Nepean and some from outside the riding.

They are all opposed to the imposition of the goods and services tax. They feel it will be injurious to the economy, create higher inflation, higher interest rates and higher unemployment.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Eugène Bellemare (Carleton—Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present a petition on behalf of hundreds of Canadian citizens of the municipality of Gloucester, the Carleton—Gloucester region, the City of Ottawa, and of several municipalities of the provinces of Quebec and Ontario as well as of the Northwest Territories who are opposed to the federal government's proposed goods and services tax.

[*English*]

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Saskatoon—Humboldt): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour and duty to present a petition on behalf of a number of citizens of the city of Edmonton—probably constituents of yours, Mr. Speaker—who are concerned about the goods and services tax.

These petitioners call upon Parliament to reject the current proposal for the goods and services tax and request a reform of the taxation system be put in place so that there would be an effective tax which would be fair to all Canadians.

• (1210)

Mr. Douglas Young (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I want to present a petition signed by many residents in my constituency and the neighbouring constituency—

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, they are residents of Rivière-du-Portage, Pont-Lafrance, Sheila, Leach, Pont-Landry, Shippegan and Caraquet who are strongly opposed to the goods and services tax. They urge the Conservative government to withdraw this tax which will have harmful consequences throughout Canada, particularly in the region of the Acadian peninsula.

[*English*]

Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I would like to present petitions on behalf of my constituents and many others across Canada, most of them seniors who are totally demoralized by the current government's approach to the goods and services tax. They oppose it completely and want something that is more simple, fair and workable.

Ms. Joy Langan (Mission—Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 36 to present a petition from people of Ontario and Quebec who totally reject the current proposal for the goods and services tax.

They ask that the government ensure that if and when there is a broad public consensus on a sales tax measure to replace the MST, that this new tax not be an opportunity for the government to impose a massive tax grab upon the people of this country. They also ask the government to desist in its proposal to shift the tax burden to ordinary Canadians through this regressive consumption tax and attempt a real tax reform.

Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox—Alberni): Mr. Speaker, it is my duty under the provisions of Standing Order 36 to present a number of petitions from a series of communities across Canada including communities in that great constituency of Comox—Alberni.

The petitioners are calling on the government to reject the current proposal for a goods and services tax and to reform the tax system so there is an effective minimum tax on wealthy individuals and corporations. They note that neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives have presented an alternative to the goods and services tax.

Mr. Steve Butland (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, it is my duty and indeed a privilege to present four petitions from constituents in Sault Ste. Marie indicating that the government should scrap the tax. The petitioners are