

Routine Proceedings

IMMIGRATION

Ms. Barbara Greene (Don Valley North): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present another petition from residents in my riding and others across the Toronto region requesting that the minister of immigration issue minister's permits for spouses and dependent children of persons who have been determined to be convention refugees and allow them to be reunited in Canada for inland processing.

If this policy were in effect, families like that of Lilliana Petrescu, a Romanian refugee who claimed refugee status in October of 1987 and who has a three and a half year old son who has never seen his father and a daughter who is 15 years old now in Romania and a husband, could have been reunited in July 1991 when she finally got refugee status. It could be another two years.

During this holiday season let us remember these families that are suffering—

Mr. Speaker: I am awfully sorry. The matter is terribly important but members cannot make speeches or the rest of the House is not going to be heard.

• (1600)

UKRAINE

Mr. Vic Althouse (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have two sets of petitions. One contains the names of numerous petitioners from various parts of my riding who call upon the Government of Canada to give genuine support to the people of Ukraine by officially recognizing Ukraine's independence and establishing full diplomatic relations with the government and people of Ukraine immediately, following a positive confirmation vote in the referendum on December 1.

AGRICULTURE

Mr. Vic Althouse (Mackenzie): The second petition is from petitioners from across Canada but mainly in southern Ontario, calling on the government to support the House of Commons Standing Committee on Agriculture which passed a motion asking that the third line of defence payment be provided to give cash assistance on an emergency basis so as to provide the same net level of support on an acreage basis that would have been provided under the Gross Revenue Insurance Program and the Net Income Stabilization Account had they been in effect for the last crop year.

CROATIA

Mr. Al Horning (Okanagan Centre): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36 I wish to present a petition signed by approximately 2,200 residents of my riding of Okanagan Centre.

The petition reads that whereas Croatia instituted a democratic government in a multi-party election conducted in April 1990; whereas 94 per cent of the population of Croatia voted for independence; whereas communism fuelled the Yugoslav army backed Serbian terrorists as it continues its brutal attack on thousands of unarmed Croatian civilians, women and children; whereas Croats like all other people are entitled to freedom democracy and the right to self-determination; and whereas Canada has an international reputation as a moral authority and as such can initiate the democratic process without compromising world peace, the undersigned petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to take the initiative of officially recognizing Croatia as an independent and sovereign democratic nation.

Mr. Alex Kindy (Calgary Northeast): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by 245 petitioners who ask the Canadian government to condemn the actions of the Yugoslav army in Croatia and to recognize Croatia as an independent nation.

I hope it is going to happen soon, as I support them.

GASOLINE PRICES

Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by residents from Nepean, Ottawa and Kanata. These people are calling on the government to take action in order to end the disparity when it comes to gasoline prices in the Ottawa region.

They believe they are unfairly treated in this region.

THE ECONOMY

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a similar petition signed by numerous residents of the Ottawa Valley, particularly Petawawa, Mackey and Pembroke. These petitioners complain about high prices in the Ottawa region, and I can say that the same would apply for the Kingston region, or it did until very recently when prices took a plunge in my own riding. I am delighted since it shows the injustice of the prices in this area. The petition urges the government to bring an end to this injustice by introducing some legislation that will stop pernicious price gouging.