"Therefore we the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to enact legislation to amend the human rights act to prohibit discrimination against persons based upon their sexual orientation. Further we call upon you to pass the Liberal government Bill C–41 which gives tougher sentences to those who commit crimes of hate against others on the basis of their sexual orientation".

• (1125)

MINING INDUSTRY

Mr. Benoît Serré (Timiskaming—French River, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to present a petition signed by 290 Canadians with regard to mining.

The petitioners are very concerned about the decline of ore reserves in this country. They are very concerned about the fate of the 150 mining communities that depend on mining for their livelihood. They call on Parliament to take action that will grow employment in this sector, promote exploration, rebuild Canada's mineral reserves, sustain mining communities and keep mining in Canada.

I concur with the petitioners.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. Ted McWhinney (Vancouver Quadra, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by 31 residents of Vancouver and the greater Vancouver region requesting that the Canadian Human Rights Act be not amended so as to provide for same sex relationships.

Mr. Patrick Gagnon (Bonaventure—Îles–de–la–Madeleine, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I have a petition with 30 signatures of Canadians who wish to bring to our attention the fact that this petition calls for an amendment to the human rights code to include sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination. The fundamental principle underlying the petition is to ensure that people are treated equally in Canada regardless of their sexual orientation.

CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

Ms. Beth Phinney (Hamilton Mountain, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I have petitions here from right across Canada to add to the over three million signatures that I have already presented in the House. These petitioners feel that there are serious discrepancies in the criminal justice system and many vulnerable persons have little protection under the current system, women, children and disabled persons in particular.

These petitioners request that Parliament recognize that crimes of violence against the person are serious and abhorrent to society and that Parliament amend the Criminal Code of Canada, the Bail Reform Act of 1992 and the Parole Act accordingly.

RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN

Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I have two petitions signed by people from Deep River, Rolphton, Pembroke, Petawawa and other areas throughout the Ottawa Valley. They request that Parliament act immediately to extend protection to the unborn child by amending the Criminal Code to extend the same protection enjoyed by born human beings to unborn human beings.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 43, 44, 69 and a supplementary answer to Question No. 82.

[*Text*]

Question No. 43—**Mr. Chatters:**

How many and what are the names of the Indian bands and tribal councils that are being co–managed and having their bank issued cheques co–signed by Indian affairs officials?

Hon. Ron Irwin (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Currently there are 97 recipients under a financial management plan, FMP: 86 recipient controlled, seven co–management and four third–party managed. No Indian band or tribal council has their band issued cheques co–signed by Indian Affairs officials.

DIAND requires First Nations or their organizations, with a cumulative deficit greater than 8 per cent of their total revenues, to have in place a FMP to address the situation. The manner in which this FMP is managed depends upon the severity of the situation:

Recipient controlled: Where the FMP is exclusively managed by a recipient who is deemed to have the required administrative skills to address the difficulty;

Co–managed: Where the recipient is deemed not to have the required skills and recommends to DIAND the name of an independent qualified person or organization to be responsible for the financial affairs of the recipient; and

Third party managed: Where the recipient is deemed not to have the required skills and the health and safety of the community is at risk, DIAND appoints an independent qualified person or organization to administer the day to day affairs of the recipient.

The names of Indian bands and tribal councils who are under a co–management regime cannot be released as this information is confidential third party financial information under section 20(1)(b) of the Access to Information Act.