COMMONS DEBATES

Petitions

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—PENSION INCOME DEDUCTIONS

Mr. Neil Young (Beaches): Mr. Speaker, on the different matter of unemployment insurance and pensioners, I have a petition signed by a number of individuals from the Hamilton-Beamsville area who ask Parliament to examine the Government's intent to deduct pension income from unemployment insurance benefits and ask that those pensioners be treated fairly because of the number of years of service that they have given to Canada.

FULL INDEXATION OF FAMILY ALLOWANCE AND REPEAL OF TAX INCREASES

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a number of petitions to present. The first is from points in my riding including Nokomis, Dafoe, Wynyard, Englefeld, Watson and Jansen. They are petitioning the House of Commons to reinstate full indexation of universal family allowance and to rescind the unfair tax increases to which the petitioners allude in their petition.

As well, I have petitions from the Province of New Brunswick which point out that accelerating cut-backs in child benefits, which will reach \$600 million annually by 1990, placed on top of sales tax increases, excise tax increases and stiff income tax increases are unfair and place an extraordinary burden on middle and low-income households, and therefore the House should be called upon to reinstate full indexation of universal family allowances and to rescind the unfair tax increases. I have similar petitions from the Province of British Columbia, the Province of Nova Scotia and the Province of Ouebec.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, I have two copies of a petition from Saskatchewan and British Columbia bringing to the Government's attention the very difficult times the Government's budget and its decision to deindex family allowance is creating for the families of Canada. The petitioners ask the Government to reinstate full indexation of universal family allowance and to rescind a number of the unfair tax increases in the last Budget.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—PENSION INCOME DEDUCTIONS

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, I have another petition that I would like to present on behalf of a number of residents of Canada who are asking that all retired employees keep their pension benefits and receive their unemployment insurance benefits without deduction of pension income. In other words, they are concerned about the situation that was introduced on January 1.

FULL INDEXATION OF FAMILY ALLOWANCE

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I have the responsibility and privilege of presenting petitions on two different subjects. The first one is on the planned deindexation of family allowances. I have petitions signed by residents of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, British Columbia and Quebec. The petitioners call upon Parliament to withdraw the legislation that is before Parliament that will in effect create a great deal of hardship on families with children and particularly single-parent mothers. In fact the cut-back is a tax increase and it is inequitable and unbearable in light of the vast billions of dollars of hand-outs that are made to the very wealthy in Canada.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE—PENSION INCOME DEDUCTIONS

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, the other petition I have is signed by residents of Hamilton, Ontario, and calls upon Parliament to withdraw the change in the unemployment insurance program whereby pension income will be used as earned income in calculating unemployment insurance.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

CONCURRENCE IN REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, there have been consultations between the House Leaders. I think you will find that there has been a disposition made to accept by unanimous consent and have passed without debate the following motion:

That the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented in the House on Tuesday, December 17, 1985, be concurred in.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for the introduction of that motion?

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry. Could I have 30 seconds to inquire into the matter before I give my consent since the House Leader is not present?

Mr. Speaker: I take it that the 30-second consultation is now complete. There now being unanimous consent for the introduction of the motion, shall the motion carry?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT ON EQUALITY RIGHTS

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, this motion has also received consent and deals with the time limit with respect to the response of the Government to the report of the Subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on Equality Rights. I will explain the purpose of it in advance. Because the House is not sitting during the mid-term break of the week of February 17, there has been a disposition made by the House Leaders to extend the time available for the presentation of the response of the