

Routine Proceedings

[Translation]

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Michel Daviault (Ahuntsic, BQ): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the pleasure to table a petition signed by 1,700 petitioners and young students from the Montreal area concerning funding for post-secondary education.

These petitioners pray and call upon Parliament to ask the government to review the whole reform proposal so that education can be regarded as an investment in the future rather than a financial burden to the government.

• (1215)

[English]

DANGEROUS OFFENDERS

Mrs. Jan Brown (Calgary Southeast, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I rise again to present a petition to the House in this effort to keep Robert Paul Thompson behind bars.

These petitioners are attempting to bring attention to the government to make our streets safer for law-abiding citizens. They are encouraging the government to enact legislation in order to do the following: One, allow reclassification of offenders as dangerous after sentencing; two, allow the indefinite detention of dangerous offenders after warrant expiry; and three, allow violent offenders to be ineligible for parole until the full sentence has been served.

Mr. Elijah Harper (Churchill, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, last year Sarah Kelly, a constituent of mine, was brutally murdered by Robert Bliss Arthurson, a known sex offender in The Pas, Manitoba.

Arthurson had been previously convicted for sexual offences involving children. He was known to police and social service agencies as a potential threat to children, but they felt under the current laws of Canada and Manitoba that they could not legally warn the community of the threat he posed.

Today I present to the House a petition with signatures from over 2,000 residents of The Pas and other communities. They pray that this Parliament enact legislation to enable courts to notify residents when sex offenders and murderers are released into the community.

I call on the hon. Minister of Justice and my fellow members to join me in finding ways to achieve this.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. Ken Epp (Elk Island, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I have three petitions today pursuant to Standing Order 36.

The first one bears 39 signatures. It indicates that since Canadians believe that all Canadians should enjoy the same protection in law by virtue of being Canadians, the petitioners pray that Parliament not amend the Criminal Code in such a way

that sentencing be less severe for crimes against persons who are not in an especially protected category.

Mr. Speaker, the second petition bears 280 signatures. It is similar to the other but is more specific.

The petitioners pray that Parliament not amend the human rights code, the Canadian Human Rights Act or the charter of rights and freedoms in any way which would indicate societal approval of same sex relationships or of homosexuality, including amending the human rights code to include the phrase of sexual orientation and including amending the Criminal Code in such a way that sentencing would be less severe for crimes against persons who are not homosexuals.

GUN CONTROL

Mr. Ken Epp (Elk Island, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, the third and last petition I would like to present today bears 373 signatures, mostly of Elk Island constituents.

It is one in which the petitioners say they are already overburdened by taxes. They do not believe the expensive procedure of registering firearms will have any substantial effect on the reduction of the criminal use of firearms. They ask that Parliament not enact any laws which would require the registration of all firearms.

LIGHTSTATIONS

Mr. John Duncan (North Island—Powell River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present petitions on a number of issues.

My first petition is signed by over 10,200 people from the west coast. They call upon Parliament to revoke the directive issued by the government to destaff lightstations. The petitioners call for a full public inquiry into the need for staffed lightstations and an acknowledgement of the safety they provide.

TAXATION

Mr. John Duncan (North Island—Powell River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, the second petition is signed by 200 of my constituents who pray and request that Parliament reduce government spending instead of increasing taxes.

GUN CONTROL

Mr. John Duncan (North Island—Powell River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I also have five separate petitions, one signed by 130 constituents, another by 61, the third by 54, the fourth by 91 and the last by 283 requesting that government not enact any further firearms control for responsible gun owners, shooting clubs and firearms collectors and that legislation be changed to penalize those who use firearms in any crime.

YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

Mr. John Duncan (North Island—Powell River, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, the eighth petition is signed by 163 of my constituents requesting Parliament to review the Young Offenders Act in an open and accountable process which addresses the following