Routine Proceedings

Ms. Mary Clancy (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, it gives me great honour today to rise in the House to present a petition pursuant to Standing Order 36 on behalf of a group of concerned Canadians.

The concerned Canadians strongly oppose this new goods and services tax and, on behalf of them, I humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the proposed goods and services tax.

Ms. Ethel Blondin (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present a certified petition on behalf of concerned Canadian citizens, specifically the constituents of the riding of Western Arctic, who oppose the proposed goods and services tax which will create an onerous burden on small business and which will cause serious and unfair hardship to low and middle-income Canadians.

• (1150)

Northerners cannot afford to have an increase on transportation, communications, and other basic goods and services in an area already burdened with an extremely high cost of living.

Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua (York North): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present to Parliament a petition duly signed and certified pursuant to Standing Order 36 from the residents of the federal riding of York North.

The residents, workers, seniors, students and business persons strongly oppose this proposed 9 per cent goods and services tax which they feel will have negative social and economic impact on their lives.

The opposition is based upon the fundamental economic and social realities that this tax will increase inflation, increase unemployment, increase interest rates, and is a nightmare to administer. On their behalf I urge this Parliament to reject the proposed tax.

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour to present a petition on behalf of many Canadians who are very concerned about the goods and services tax. They believe it is a tax grab that has an adverse effect on tourism and that it will be a nightmare for small business to administer. Therefore they humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the new proposed goods and services tax.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36 it is my honour and privilege to present to the House a petition calling upon the Government of Canada to reject the proposed GST, or goods and services tax, or grief and suffering tax. This petition is signed by 30 residents of the great constituency of Windsor West, so ably represented by our very distinguished, honourable and learned colleague sitting immediately in front of me.

RCMP DRESS CODE

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey—White Rock): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present two petitions from constituents of mine. The first one, with about 120 signatures, reads: "Whereas the RCMP has a long and honourable tradition known and admired around the world, and whereas the distinctive uniform is recognized and respected by the public and other police forces in Canada and other countries, we see no merit, or value, or reason to allow changes in the RCMP uniform or dress code."

It goes on to address their disagreement with the proposed changes to the RCMP dress code.

OLD AGE SECURITY

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey—White Rock): I have a petition with about 40 signatures from a group of citizens in the Newton area of Surrey who disagree strongly with the government's proposal to deal with the \$50,000 ceiling of retired people and withhold OAS payments.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Jesse Flis (Parkdale—High Park): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I too have the honour of presenting petitions from Canadians who oppose the government's proposed goods and services tax. The petitioners claim that the proposed new tax will create undue hardships on low and medium income families and on small businesses. The petitioners are, in plain language, asking this government, telling this government, to scrap the GST.

Since I am the last one presenting a petition today, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate you on the efficient manner in which you accepted these petitions from right across Canada on this important topic.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!