

ment to implement an emergency surtax on the profits of banks and other financial institutions to pay off the deficit.

RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN

Ms. Susan Whelan (Essex—Windsor, Lib.): The second petition calls on Parliament to act immediately to extend protection to the unborn child through amendments to the Criminal Code.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Ms. Susan Whelan (Essex—Windsor, Lib.): The third petition deals with the social issue regarding same sex relationships.

GUN CONTROL

Ms. Susan Whelan (Essex—Windsor, Lib.): Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition on behalf of my constituents concerning gun control.

INCOME TAX ACT

Mr. Paul Szabo (Mississauga South, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I wish to present a petition which has been circulating all across Canada. The particular petition has been signed by a number of Canadians from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

The petitioners would like to draw to the attention of the House that managing the family home and caring for preschool children is an honourable profession which has not been recognized for its value to our society. They also state that the Income Tax Act discriminates against families that make the choice to provide care in the home to preschool children, the disabled, the chronically ill or the aged.

The petitioners therefore pray and call on Parliament to pursue initiatives to eliminate tax discrimination against families that decide to provide care in the home to preschool children, the disabled, the chronically ill or the aged.

CFB CHILLIWACK

Mr. Chuck Strahl (Fraser Valley East, Ref.): Mr. Speaker, I will present several petitions today. They have come in over the summer and this fall and are from people in British Columbia.

• (1030)

The petitioners say that over the last 10 years Canadian taxpayers have invested millions of dollars in infrastructure at Canadian Forces Base Chilliwack. The Canadian taxpayer will have to absorb any loss incurred by shutting down CFB Chilliwack and replacing that infrastructure elsewhere. This is the last army base unit in B.C. and the only military base in the lower mainland and in the entire British Columbia region. Due to its favourable climate CFB Chilliwack is able to provide optimum year round training.

Therefore the petitioners are calling upon Parliament to re-examine the closure of CFB Chilliwack to see if perhaps it should not stay open.

Government Orders

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CULTURAL PROPERTY EXPORT AND IMPORT ACT

The House resumed from October 23 consideration of the motion that Bill C-93, an act to amend the Cultural Property Export and Import Act, the Income Tax Act and the Tax Court of Canada Act, be read the third time and passed.

The Speaker: When Bill C-93 was last before the House the hon. member for Mississauga East had 28 minutes remaining for debate. Therefore I now recognize the hon. member for Mississauga East on debate.

[Translation]

Ms. Albina Guarnieri (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Canadian Heritage, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, the tax incentives provided in the Cultural Property Export and Import Act are for all Canadians and not only for the wealthy.

The act has been in effect for almost 20 years, that is since 1967. It has evolved and it must continue to do so in order to encourage Canadians to keep within the country those objects that are part of our heritage. The more Canadians are aware of the existence and purpose of this legislation, the more they donate interesting property related to our heritage.

Indeed, we notice an increase in the number of gifts made to public institutions and authorities responsible for keeping such property and making it accessible to ordinary citizens, the rich as well as the poor, now and in the future.

Economic considerations are not the only reasons underlying this bill. It is also important to make sure that our cultural heritage remains here in Canada. When the original legislation was passed, it did not include any deterrent to prevent the sale of Canadian cultural property on the free market. Consequently, Canadians have forever lost many important elements of their culture and heritage.

These objects were sold abroad and have become the property of public and private collections throughout the world. This is a major and permanent loss of heritage for Canadians.