

*Petitions*

In the meantime, the Ways and Means motion of course is not dependent on the Chair accepting it. Under the orders, clearly, the Minister has the right to table it. The question that the Hon. Member is raising goes to its substantive effect subject to the arguments that the Hon. Member has raised. Of course, if I accepted completely the Hon. Member's arguments, then I would have to return and we would have to deal with the matter.

In any event, I hope that the Hon. Member will accept my assurances that I will look very carefully at the argument made. I will report back to the House as soon as convenient.

I point out that I have some concern that it may be, even if I was fully in agreement with the Hon. Member, premature to make a ruling. However, I will do the best I can.

there is unanimous consent, at least among the House Leaders, with respect to the following motion, which states:

That, Order-in-Council P.C. 1988-424 tabled in the House on April 27, 1988 and referred to the Standing Committee on Consumer and Corporate Affairs be withdrawn from the said committee and referred to the Standing Committee on Government Operations, and that the provisions of Standing Orders 103 and 104 shall apply upon the adoption of this order.

Is my understanding correct?

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, I have no problem with that. There has not been a clear understanding yet with respect to it, however. I wonder if we can hold this matter for a few moments to allow some consultation to take place. I do not anticipate any difficulty but I would like to have a few more opportunities to discuss this matter with some of my colleagues.

**Mr. Hawkes:** It was handed to me by a member of my staff and it does have the signatures of the two House Leaders. I was not part of the discussion but it was my obligation to bring it forward.

Is it all right?

**Mr. Riis:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** If we could just cast our minds back for a moment or two, the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary has made a proposition. The Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) wanted some further clarification. I think that the Hon. Member has that further clarification.

I take it, then, that the House is in accord with the Parliamentary Secretary?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

[Translation]

**PETITIONS****GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

**Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the Government's response to 12 petitions numbered as follows: 332-4336, 332-4379, 332-4449, 332-4476, 332-4516, 332-4524 and 332-4530 to 332-4535 inclusive.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS****PRESENTATION OF FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Felix Holtmann (Selkirk—Interlake):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings]

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**ORDER-IN-COUNCIL P.C. 1988-424****REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, there has been discussion among the Parties and

**PETITIONS****OPPOSITION TO BILL C-72—OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

**Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River):** Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure to present two petitions, both of which have been approved by the Clerk of Petitions as to form and content.

The two petitions come generally from the areas of Nanton, High River, Carmangay, Stavely, Lethbridge, Calgary and Edmonton. Both state that your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to cancel Bill C-72 so that the unilingual speaking people have a chance for positions in Government.

● (1530)

**PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN**

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I have two