

*Routine Proceedings*

To sum up their 11 excellent points, although I do not have the time to read them into the record, they want a renewed commitment from all parties to the Canada Health Act and to the universality of health care. They also want to make sure that the freezes and the cuts to funding are removed, that appropriate funding is reinstated for health care in Canada.

• (1520)

Finally, the petitioners want to make sure, before any changes ever occur, that there is full and open debate on the direction that any government would take.

CHRISTINE LAMONT AND DAVID SPENCER

**Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke):** Mr. Speaker, I rise, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present eight petitions containing some 271 signatures, 15 of them from my home city of Nelson, British Columbia.

The petitioners point out that two Canadians, Christine Lamont and David Spencer, who were sentenced to 28 years each in a Brazilian prison, have suffered miscarriages of justice, cruel and unusual treatment in Brazilian prisons and discrimination in sentencing and parole.

The petitioners further point out that riots in the same compound where they are held have demonstrated there is a real threat to their health and safety in prison. The only relief available from such severe punishment is for Canada to request expulsion in accordance with Brazilian law.

Therefore the petitioners call upon Parliament to urge the Prime Minister to request the Government of Brazil to expel Christine Lamont and David Spencer and return them to Canada in accordance with Brazilian law.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, the petitioners who have signed this petition really must be shocked at the government's inconsistent approach. The government talks about the importance of the global marketplace and how the development of education and research are very important to Canada's competitive position in that global marketplace, yet the

government imposed a goods and services tax on the printed word which includes educational materials.

The petitioners have taken the position that the government was wrong and I agree with them. The petition is signed by people from Kingston, Ottawa, Orleans, Westbrook, Tamworth, Harrowsmith, Oshawa, Sydenham, Pittsburgh, Odessa, Lyndhurst, Hamilton, Trenton, Willowdale, Battersea, Newmarket and a signature from someone from St. John's, Newfoundland.

These petitioners are all appalled at the government's application of the goods and services tax on the printed word, contrary to the normal democratic principles of freedom of the press, the importance of education in our society and so on. They call upon Parliament to repeal the goods and services tax on the sale of books, magazines and newspapers.

[Translation]

BILL C-105

**Mr. David Berger (Saint-Henri—Westmount):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a petition signed by about fifty people from the Montreal area who oppose the government's proposal to exclude from unemployment insurance those who quit their jobs.

The petitioners believe that these proposals, if adopted, will lead to excessive and costly litigation. They claim that these proposals will discourage workers from improving their position at work and decrease labour force mobility.

They also maintain that these proposals could subject workers to continuing discrimination, sexual harassment and undue stress on the job. They also say that these proposals will have a negligible effect on reducing the deficit and payroll taxes.

Therefore, the petitioners ask Parliament to reject these proposals contained in Bill C-105.

\* \* \*

[English]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk)