

This is a serious matter, because if it is possible to break into the computer system all sorts of information on individual Canadian taxpayers is now open to whoever wishes to have that information. That means that those people who are interested in credit ratings will have access to important information. It means that all sorts of fraud may be perpetrated. There may be a redirection of Old Age Security cheques and unemployment insurance cheques. There may be false applications for passports.

• (1120)

To stop those possible abuses, the Government will have to increase its staff in those various departments to make certain that Old Age Security cheques are not redirected to some false address. It is a very serious situation. I would expect this Government to understand the seriousness of it, and to take every possible precaution to make certain that fraud and misuse of this information will not occur.

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[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

PRESENTATION OF FIRST REPORT OF STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE

Mr. Charles Hamelin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, as Joint Chairman, I have the honour of tabling the First Report of the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

If the House gives its consent, I intend to move concurrence in this report today.

[Editor's Note: For above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

PETITIONS

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by a number of citizens from Winnipeg who say that the federal Government's proposal to change the Patent Act relating to prescription drugs will increase drug prices for Canadian consumers, and will severely restrict the ability of average Canadians to buy the necessary prescription drugs. Therefore, they humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject these proposals which will increase prescription drug prices for Canadians.

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty on behalf of a number of constituents from Prince Albert to present a petition to the House of

Introduction of Bills

Commons in which they humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject the proposals to increase the cost of drugs, or anything that will increase the prescription drug prices for Canadians.

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by citizens from Thompson, Brandon—

Mr. Speaker: Order please. I remind Hon. Members that the practice is that all of the petitions to be presented by an hon. Member be presented when the Member rises. If this is just one more petition, I am sure that the House would be pleased to receive it.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): I have the honour to present a petition signed by citizens from Thompson, Minnedosa and Brandon in Manitoba who object to the Government's proposed legislation with regard to prescription drugs.

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[Translation]

MAINTENANCE OF PORTS OPERATIONS ACT, 1986

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-24, an Act to provide for the maintenance of port operations.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the Minister have leave to introduce the said Bill?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Speaker: When shall the Bill be read the second time? At the next sitting of the House?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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[English]

CANADAIR LIMITED DIVESTITURE ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of State (Privatization)) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-25, an Act to authorize the divestiture of Canadair Limited and to provide for other matters in connection therewith, be now read the first time and be printed.