

Routine Proceedings

Therefore, the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to abolish plans to implement the 9 per cent tax on goods and services.

Mr. John Harvard (Winnipeg St. James): Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure and the honour to present petitions on behalf of hundreds of my constituents.

These petitions have been certified correct as to form and content and relate to the GST. I will not go through the litany of complaints against the GST because Your Honour has already heard the complaints from other petitions presented in the House this afternoon.

The petitioners believe that the GST is very, very bad legislation and is not in the interest of this country. They ask this House to reject the tax.

OPPOSITION TO BILL 178

Mr. John Harvard (Winnipeg St. James): Mr. Speaker, I have the duty, responsibility and pleasure to present another petition. It too has been certified correct as to content and form.

This petition relates to national unity. The petitioners are concerned not only about national unity but minority rights in Canada. They are concerned about the future of Canada. They are particularly concerned about the effects of legislation in the province of Quebec known as Bill 178, which they believe is contrary to the provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedom.

The petitioners believe sincerely that this bill is a mistake and is not in the best interests of this country which we all love so much.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to present a petition under Standing Order 36 on behalf of residents of Burns Lake, Francis Lake, Grand Isle, Whitehorse, Kelowna, Vancouver, Fort St. John, Kamloops, Fruitvale, Trail, Osoyoos, Rock Creek, Castlegar, and the list goes on and on.

The petitioners are residents of all sorts of western Canadian communities and point out a whole set of concerns against the goods and services tax. They are asking the Government of Canada to come to its senses and drop the whole matter.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I have another petition on another matter, signed by a number of westerners again, asking the government to reconsider its decision to curtail VIA service and suggesting that the government improve and modernize VIA service, particularly because of its environmentally sound way of transporting large numbers of people.

PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by 35 electors from Kingston and the Islands who object to the government's goods and services tax and call upon Parliament to reject the tax as being unfair and inequitable.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 to present a petition, duly certified by the clerk.

This petition is from my constituents in Bridge Cove, Red Head Cove and Petrie on Random Island. The petitioners are concerned about Bill C-21 and the changes to the Unemployment Insurance Act.

They are particularly concerned that the Government of Canada is withdrawing its contribution of \$2.9 billion to the unemployment insurance fund and leaving the financing to the workers and employers. They are also concerned about some of the other negative effects it will have on them, particularly the job development strategy which essentially will preclude them from building infrastructure in their community to seek employment.

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to propose more meaningful reforms and in particular to call upon the government to come up with an effective regional development policy.

OPPOSITION TO BILL 178

Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan): Mr. Speaker, it is my duty and responsibility to present two petitions signed in the main by residents of the Gabriola Island and Nanaimo in my riding. This petition is presented under Standing Order 36 and has been certified proper.