

Routine Proceedings

• (1010)

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Madam Speaker, I think you will find unanimous consent for a couple of motions. I move:

That notwithstanding any standing or special order of this House, when the House adjourns on Wednesday, February 22, 1995, it shall stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Friday February 24, 1995;

That the address of the President of the United States of America, to be delivered in the House Chamber on Thursday, February 23, 1995 before members of the Senate and members of the House of Commons, together with all introductory and related remarks, be printed as an appendix to the House of Commons *Debates* of Friday, February 24, 1995 and form part of the records of this House; and

That media recording and transmission of such address, introductory and related remarks be authorized pursuant to established guidelines for such occasions.

(Motion agreed to.)

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[Translation]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.) moved:

That two Library of Parliament research officers assigned to the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development be allowed to travel to Toronto on February 19 and 20 in order to attend a conference of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment.

(Motion agreed to.)

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[English]

PETITIONS**GUN CONTROL**

Mr. Garry Breitkreuz (Yorkton—Melville, Ref.): Madam Speaker, it gives me pleasure to present a petition today from men and women in southern Ontario.

The petitioners would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that public safety is the number one priority of the criminal justice system. The existing controls on law-abiding, responsible firearm owners are more than enough to ensure public safety and that the current and proposed laws criminalizing certain firearm activities when the danger to the public safety and criminal intent is either virtually non-existent or totally absent.

The target for all gun control laws in the Criminal Code of Canada must be the criminals who are either a danger to the safety of the public or those who have criminal intent, not law-abiding, responsible firearm owners. No amount of gun control has ever succeeded in preventing criminals from acquiring guns by illegal means. What our criminal justice system must ensure is that criminals who steal, import, sell and possess guns and/or use guns in the commission of a crime will be severely punished.

Therefore, the petitioners pray and request Parliament to support laws that will severely punish all violent criminals who use weapons in the commission of a crime; second, support new Criminal Code firearms control provisions which recognize and protect the right of law-abiding citizens to own and use recreational firearms, and last, support legislation which repeals and modifies existing controls—

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): May I remind hon. members that it is normal to read the prayer only and not to enter into a form of debate when presenting petitions.

[Translation]

VIOLENCE

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface, Lib.): Madam Speaker, this petition is about abuse and violence in society.

[English]

The petitioners believe that unnecessary violence and abuse in society in all of its forms, on radio and television, have become a major concern of the Canadian population.

• (1015)

They want the government to ensure that the CRTC is able to regulate it and reduce it and if possible remove it, I suspect. They point out that it is not necessary to educate and it goes counter to families trying to raise their children.

GUN CONTROL

Mr. Cliff Breitkreuz (Yellowhead, Ref.): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I am pleased to present three petitions on the whole business of firearms legislation. Two petitions are from towns in Yellowhead and one is from Ontario.

Among other things the petitioners request that Parliament support laws which will severely punish all violent criminals who use weapons in the commission of a crime. I concur with that request.