

*Routine Proceedings*

bons in this first national marine park. They are also concerned that they do not want any more hydrocarbon exploration activities to take place in the coastal waters of British Columbia.

## PROPOSED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition that is certified correct pursuant to Standing Order 36, signed by residents of northern British Columbia who are concerned about the proposed goods and services tax. They call upon Parliament to reject the proposed goods and services tax because it would shift the tax burden on to ordinary Canadians through a regressive consumption tax instead of through real tax reform.

## VIA RAIL

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** I have a petition certified correct pursuant to Standing Order 36 from residents of northern British Columbia who are concerned about the announced cuts to VIA Rail. They call upon Parliament to maintain VIA Rail as a national network and to upgrade VIA Rail with new equipment and to give VIA sufficient budget to maintain its national mandate for passenger service.

## FORESTRY

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition certified correct pursuant to Standing Order 36 regarding Canada's forests. It calls upon Parliament to renew the FRDA agreement for forest renewal with British Columbia, thereby providing a renewed commitment to the restocking of our forest lands, advancing forest research, promoting silviculture and assisting the forest industry in developing new products and markets that will provide British Columbia with forestry jobs for the future.

## NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure to present a petition which is in proper form under Standing Order 36 in the interest of the National Arts Centre orchestra, which is considered a world-class orchestra. It has brought fame to the capital city and is an important instrument in cultural develop-

ment across Canada. I call upon the minister to consider financial aid to the National Arts Centre and to see what can be done to enable the people of Canada and the people of Ottawa to enjoy the National Arts Centre and its orchestra.

## VIA RAIL

**Mr. Jim Jordan (Leeds—Grenville):** It is a pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to present this petition on behalf of citizens of Thunder Bay and the district of Thunder Bay condemning the government for its shortsightedness in reference to its action on VIA. It is a pleasure to present this petition which has been properly prepared and attested as to proper content and form.

## HUMAN RIGHTS

**Ms. Barbara Greene (Don Valley North):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present 1,365 signatures in support of the petition to request the Ministers of Employment and Immigration and Health and Welfare Canada to revise the medical standards for admission to Canada with a view to compliance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the enhancement of the human rights and dignity of the disabled.

There must be a change in the act which allows families and individuals to be considered on their merit as immigrants to Canada. A medical disability of an individual should not be an automatic bar to admission to Canada.

## VIA RAIL

**Mrs. Shirley Maheu (Saint-Laurent—Cartierville):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition pursuant to Standing Order 36 in which several hundred constituents from all over Canada have indicated that the government subsidies to VIA Rail are not disproportionate to subsidies required for highway infrastructure or for airports. They request the Government of Canada not to cancel in whole or in part rail passenger services in our country.

**Mr. Lyle Vanclief (Prince Edward—Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure today to present yet another petition from people in the Madoc, Tweed and Eldorado area of Ontario calling upon the government to reverse the decisions that it has made on VIA Rail.