

*Routine Proceedings*

per cent on all their goods and services purchased after January 1, 1991.

They would like to tell the government and Parliament that they object strongly to this imposition on their goods and services and that they believe it is an unprecedented tax grab from the pockets of Canadians. This government has already increased taxes 31 times since it took power and the effect of this new tax will cause higher inflation, probably higher interest rates than we have at this time and most likely, higher unemployment. They would like to see this tax scrapped absolutely.

## YOUNG OFFENDERS ACT

**Mr. Stan Keyes (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, I have the duty, as the elected member for Hamilton West, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present to this House a petition that is certified correct by the Clerk of Petitions. It is signed by thousands of residents who reside in and around Hamilton.

The petitioners call upon Parliament to revise the laws of Canada to replace the Young Offenders Act with an updated Juvenile Delinquents Act with a lowered maximum age of 13 years.

## GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mrs. Diane Marleau (Sudbury):** Mr. Speaker, today I stand to present a petition signed by 150 residents of Cavendish, Newfoundland. They are extremely worried about the proposed goods and services tax. They ask that this government reject it. They feel that it is extremely regressive and that the regions of this country will suffer far more than some of the other more centralized regions. They ask that the government go back to the drawing board and come up with something that is far more equitable for all the people of Canada.

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege to present a petition which has been certified correct under Standing Order 36. It is signed by 41 residents of Newfoundland, from Islington, Whiteway and Heart's Delight.

These Canadians are complaining about the government's plans with respect to the goods and services tax. They recognize, notwithstanding the denials from the Minister of Finance and his colleague, the Minister of State for Finance, that the goods and services tax will not affect the price of food, but in fact that it will affect the price of food in their communities because of transporta-

tion costs. They object to this tax and call upon Parliament to reject it.

**Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte):** Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure of presenting a petition pursuant to Standing Order 36 on behalf of 34 residents of Sunnyside in the great province of Newfoundland. They call upon the Government of Canada and the Prime Minister to withdraw the goods and services tax. The residents of Sunnyside in the province of Newfoundland believe the tax is a hidden tax and proposes a huge new tax burden, in particular, on middle and low-income Canadians. The tax is inflationary and is neither in the best interests of Canada nor its citizens.

The signatories in question ask the government to withdraw this tax immediately.

**Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth):** Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to present petitions from over 1,400 individuals from the Dartmouth, Eastern Passage, Preston and Coal Harbour area of Nova Scotia.

The petitioners ask the government to withdraw its regressive, ill-conceived goods and services tax proposal. These Canadians feel very strongly that this tax, which is a hidden tax, is unfair to low and middle-income Canadians. They believe it is a very regressive and unprecedented tax grab and urge the government to withdraw this measure immediately and to come forward with real tax reform which helps all the people across the country.

**Mrs. Shirley Maheu (Saint-Laurent—Cartierville):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition on behalf of several residents of Newfoundland, pursuant to Standing Order 36, whereby they request that the government scrap the GST which will be applied to virtually everything they buy. Now we have just found out that it will be applied to everything they buy, including essential food items in smaller stores. The tax will present an unfair hardship on low and middle-income Canadians.

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

**Mr. Bob Wood (Nipissing):** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege this morning to present a petition from the residents of Nipissing pursuant to Standing Order 36. The petitioners are upset that the government has seen fit to introduce charges that will reduce housekeeping services to veterans and subsequently increase the cost of long-term care. There are over 150 signatures. They