

Petitions

to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that the CRTC television broadcasting regulations do not extend to women the same type of protection against abusive comment or abusive pictorial representation as now exists for racial and religious groups, that the concerns of citizens have been recently heightened not only by the so-called adult programming on pay television but also by the proliferation of pornography in various media, that the degradation and exploitation of women, children and men through pornography is abhorrent to all people, that the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox) has been willing to empower the CRTC to regulate broadcasting to ensure Canadian content but has yet to intervene to ensure the protection of women against abuse, and that it is this Parliament's responsibility as provided for in the Broadcasting Act to strengthen, enrich and safeguard the cultural, political, social and economic fabric of Canada.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to demonstrate its opposition to the degradation of women by enacting an Act to amend the Broadcasting Act, as introduced by the Hon. Member for Broadview-Greenwood (Ms. McDonald) on March 8, 1983. And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray. Of course this was signed by numerous residents of Toronto.

CANADIAN MERCHANT MARINE

Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a third petition from numerous residents of the Province of British Columbia, representing the communities of Victoria, Steveston, Richmond and Vancouver. Their petition is addressed to the honourable House of Commons in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada, who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right thus to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in industrial benefits are not accruing to Canadians because the Government has failed to implement a comprehensive and effective marine industrial strategy, that it has failed to enact the appropriate legislation to ensure that offshore oil and gas development benefits will accrue to Canadian industry and Canadian workers, and that Canada's economic growth is in serious jeopardy because of Government inaction in this very vital area.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to encourage the Government to implement immediately a sensible and effective marine industrial policy which will result in the creation of a Canadian merchant marine and the expansion of Canadian shipbuilding and allied industries. And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Speaker, I have another petition to present on a related topic. It is somewhat similar. It expresses very serious concerns. It is addressed to the—

[Translation]

—the honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled.

The petition of the undersigned citizens of Canada who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right to present a common grievance, in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that Canadians have been deprived of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in industrial spin-offs because we have no industrial maritime strategy and the federal Government has neglected to provide Canada with a consistent maritime policy, although more than two years ago it promised to announce such a policy, and that the Government's action is endangering Canada's economic growth. Therefore, the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray that the Government be asked to adopt forthwith a consistent and effective maritime policy, resulting in the creation of a Canadian merchant marine and expansion of the Canadian shipping industry and related sectors. As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

[English]

This petition is signed by numerous residents of the Province of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present another petition of a similar nature. As a result of the very vigorous efforts of members of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Transport and General Workers who sought to present this petition in the Parliament of Canada, signatures have been obtained from residents of Elmira, Kitchener, St. Catharines and Waterloo, in the Province of Ontario. Essentially their petition is to the honourable House of Commons in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada, who now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right thus to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that because of a very serious omission in the development of a Canadian marine industrial strategy, Canadians are now losing thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in possible benefits; that the federal Government has failed to take the initiative to implement a coherent Canadian marine industrial policy, although such a policy was promised more than two years ago; and that this country's economic growth is being jeopardized because of inaction.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to encourage immediately the Government to implement an effective Canadian marine industrial policy which would see the creation of a Canadian merchant fleet and the expansion of Canadian shipbuilding and allied industries. And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

● (1510)

Mr. Speaker, I have here a petition which comes from the riding of a colleague in the House, North Vancouver. A large number of people have signed this petition. It is addressed to