

*Petitions*

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) have the unanimous consent of the House to move the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a comment so that this does not repeat itself. I was not able to be here at the appointed time last night to ask you to defer the vote until today. I had another engagement and was out of the House, but the House Leader of my Party went to the Speaker at that time.

I believe the Speaker then has, according to my interpretation of Standing Order 13(4)(a), the authority to decide what time the vote will be taken. Most of us presumed that the vote would be at three o'clock but it is being changed to 3.30, and I do not have any trouble with that, but I take it that the Speaker still has the authority to decide when a vote will be taken when that vote has been deferred. I want that made clear.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will consider the matter the Hon. Member has raised. I think I have the answer, but in view of the fact that it has been raised, I will look into it and return to the Hon. Member. In the meantime, I take it the Hon. Member is in agreement.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

### PETITIONS

#### REQUEST FOR BROADCASTING OF WINTER OLYMPICS ACROSS CANADA IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and privilege to present to the House a petition signed by a great number of constituents who all express dissatisfaction over the fact that French television broadcasts of the Calgary Winter Olympic Games will not be available to a great many residents of rural areas in Canada. All your petitioners humbly call upon Parliament and urge the Government to respect its commitments towards the linguistic minority by making it possible for Radio-Canada to broadcast the Winter Olympic Games.

[*English*]

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a petition signed by the required number of people. The petitioners state that, whereas close to one

million Francophones residing outside Quebec will not be able to watch French television broadcasts of the Calgary Winter Olympics, the CRTC compromise under which French television signals would be made available to cable companies outside Quebec have cable service, whereas French-speaking Canadians will pay their share of the \$200 million earmarked by the Conservative Government for the Calgary Winter Olympic Games. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to urge the Government to respect the commitment to Canada's linguistic minorities by providing all communities from coast to coast with the possibility of watching in both official languages broadcasts of this international event, the 1988 Winter Olympic Games.

[*Translation*]

#### OPPOSITION TO TAX ON FOOD

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to present another petition which meets the requirements of the provisions of Standing Order 106.

Whereas the federal Government has imposed 25 new taxes or tax increases on Canadian taxpayers since September 1984, in particular on medical and dental supplies, snack foods, candy and soft drinks;

Whereas the federal Government in its tax reform proposal is studying the possibility of imposing on Canadians a general tax on goods and services, including food;

Whereas food constitutes a vital element in day-to-day life and the imposition of this tax would have the effect of seriously penalizing various categories of taxpayers such as the elderly, families, the unemployed, low and middle income taxpayers, and youth;

Wherefore your petitioners humbly call upon Parliament to reject all measures that would have the effect of imposing a sales tax on food products.

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[*English*]

### QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask that all questions on the Order Paper be allowed to stand.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall all questions be allowed to stand?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.