

Sixty nations are required for ratification of this convention, 51 now have and it is extremely important that at least 9 more sign it. It is certainly incumbent upon Canada to take its part in that.

COURT CHALLENGES PROGRAM

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I have two petitions to table pursuant to Standing Order 36 calling upon the Government of Canada to rescind its decision with regard to terminating the Court Challenges Program. This petition is signed by residents of the province of New Brunswick, in particular from Campbellton, New Brunswick, as well as Mann Mountain, parts of Restigouche, Sainte-Anne, as well as other parts of that province.

The second petition deals with the same subject matter signed by numerous residents of Kingston, Ontario, who are all in agreement that the termination of the Court Challenges Program is indeed an injustice and the government ought to rescind its decision forthwith.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I would like to revert briefly to the item Introduction of Government Bills.

An hon. member: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Come now, I call upon the House to cooperate. I think I proceeded a little hastily earlier.

An hon. members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): This is not a matter requiring unanimous consent. The Chair made a mistake in proceeding a little too hastily and, thus, is allowed to revert to a previous item.

* * *

CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY WATER ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Harvie Andre (for the Minister of Transport) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-83, an act respecting the transportation of goods by water.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Andre moves that the bill be now read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Government Orders

CIVILIAN WAR PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Harvie Andre (for the Minister of Veterans Affairs) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-84, an act to amend the Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Act, the War Veterans Allowance Act and the Pension Act and to amend other acts in consequence thereof.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Andre moves that the bill be now read the first time and printed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 69(1), the motion is deemed adopted.

Bill read the first time and printed.

* * *

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Shall all questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

REFERENDUM ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons) moved that Bill C-81, an act to provide for referendums on the Constitution of Canada, be read the third time and passed.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to speak once again in favour of Bill C-81. This bill has been the subject of thorough consideration in committee and I am confident its provisions reflect the will of the majority of the House.