

go to court with a lot of cost, this bill would allow them access similar to spouses in the action.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Mr. Wilbee 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.

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PETITIONS

JUSTICE

Mrs. Beryl Gaffney (Nepean): Mr. Speaker, I have today, pursuant to Standing Order 36, the signatures of 39 residents of Canada in support of the parents of Nina de Villiers. I draw this to the attention of the House.

These petitioners request that Parliament recognizes that crimes of violence against the person are serious and abhorrent to society and amends the Criminal Code of Canada, the Bail Reform Act of 1972 and the Parole Act accordingly.

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EAST TIMOR

Mrs. Beryl Gaffney (Nepean): I have a second petition, Mr. Speaker, to present pursuant to Standing Order 36.

The undersigned 40 petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to condemn the Indonesian military occupation of East Timor and the genocide of the East Timorese people, to support publicly the right of the East Timorese to determine their own destiny by referendums and free elections, and to support these causes in the United Nations and all other international arenas.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to introduce a petition, pursuant to Standing Order 36, on behalf of a number of constituents from British Columbia.

They are concerned about the inadequate funding of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and are asking the federal government to ensure that proper funding is possible to enable the RCMP to fulfil its mandate and its

role as the only visible police force for many communities across British Columbia and other parts of Canada.

NORTH THOMPSON RIVER

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): On another matter, Mr. Speaker, I have a petition, again from residents of the North Thompson Valley primarily in British Columbia, pointing out the petitioners' concerns regarding a plan to dam the North Thompson Valley in an effort to divert the North Thompson River into the San Diego, California area.

The petitioners are asking that this government simply announce that Canadian rivers will not be sold to the United States.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by several hundred Canadians, residents of Ontario, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia.

The petitioners point out that in October 1985 the subcommittee on equality rights of the justice committee submitted a report to this House recommending that the Canadian Human Rights Act be amended to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in all areas of federal jurisdiction. They point out that in March 1986 the federal government accepted this report and its recommendations. They point out that the Canadian Human Rights Commission has consistently called for this amendment to the Human Rights Act and that Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Yukon have such protection included in their human rights acts.

Therefore they urge the government and the Parliament of Canada to act and immediately bring forth an amendment to add sexual orientation to the Canadian Human Rights Acts as a prohibited ground of discrimination.

CROATIA

Mr. Ken James (Sarnia—Lambton) Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present a petition which has been certified correct in terms of form and content.

The hundreds of signatories in my riding of Sarnia—Lambton had called upon the federal government to recognize Croatia officially. I know that these petitioners and all Canadians were pleased and applauded the January 15, 1992 announcement by the federal government giving official recognition to Croatia as an independent and sovereign state.