

With respect to registration, I would not know about that. I guess that would come under the President of the Privy Council who is responsible for the electoral law.

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● (1500)

### PETITIONS

#### MR. DEANS—REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

**Madam Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### PETITIONS

#### MR. YOUNG—SAFE DRINKING WATER

**Mr. Neil Young (Beaches):** Madam Speaker, this petition of the undersigned residents of the Province of Ontario, 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 toxic chemicals are posing an increasing threat to the potable waters of their Province, that there is presently no legislation which will guarantee the safety and healthfulness of those waters, and that Canada's neighbour, the United States of America, has legislation entitled "The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974".

Wherefore we, the undersigned, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to enact a safe drinking water act which will protect and enhance drinking water quality in all areas of Canada.

#### MR. PARKER—RURAL MAIL SERVICE

**Mr. Sid Parker (Kootenay East-Revelstoke):** Madam Speaker, I am pleased to present a petition on behalf of a large number of citizens in the area of Trout Lake, Beaton and Galena Bay in the Province of British Columbia who face the loss of local rural box service for mail. The residents of these areas will now have to make a round trip of as much as 40 miles to get their mail through an area where winter traffic is often difficult or impossible because of road and weather conditions.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon this House to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure continued rural mail service for the British Columbia communities of Trout Lake, Beaton, Galena Bay and, by so doing, avoid imposing unreasonable travel requirements and

the danger of winter roads on these people. And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

#### MS. McDONALD—BROADCASTING REGULATION

**Ms. Lynn McDonald (Broadview-Greenwood):** Madam Speaker, I would like to present the petition of the undersigned constituents of the riding of Broadview-Greenwood, in the Province of Ontario, and other concerned citizens mostly from other parts of Ontario, 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 the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission broadcasting regulations do not extend to women the same 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 has been willing to empower the CRTC to regulate broadcasting to ensure Canadian content, but has yet to intervene to assure the protection of women against this abuse, that it is Parliament's responsibility, as provided for in the—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. The Hon. Member is arguing. At any rate, the enunciation of the petition is quite too long for what is admissible in the House. I would ask the Hon. Member to go to the prayer, because we know what the petition is about. It is sufficient to give the title of the petition and then go to the prayer.

**Ms. McDonald:** Madam Speaker, with the above in mind, the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to demonstrate its opposition to the denigration of women by enacting an Act to amend the Broadcasting Act as introduced by myself on March 8, 1983; and as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

#### MR. SKELLY—ABSENTEE VOTING

**Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox-Powell River):** Madam Speaker, I also have the honour to present a petition to the House from residents of Surrey, Delta, White Rock and Richmond, who find that under the Canadian Constitution every citizen is guaranteed the right to vote, yet there are many occupational groups which are deprived of it because of a lack of an absentee voting procedure in the Elections Act of Canada. Your petitioners would humbly pray that the House of Commons direct the Chief Electoral Officer to present to the House of Commons a proposal which will allow Canadian citizens who are away from their normal polling locations an opportunity to vote directly by absentee ballot.