HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, October 19, 1995

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

Hon. Alfonso Gagliano (Secretary of State (Parliamentary Affairs) and Deputy Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table in both official languages the government's response to 24 petitions.

[Translation]

B.C. TREATY COMMISSION

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Hon. Ron Irwin (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 32(2), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, two copies of the 1994–95 annual report of the B.C. Treaty Commission.

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[English]

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT RETIRING ALLOWANCES ACT

Mr. Dan McTeague (Ontario, Lib.) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-352, an act to amend the Members of Parliament Retiring Allowances Act (members who cease to be citizens of Canada).

He said: Mr. Speaker, this bill would disqualify a former member or the former member's estate or family from any allowance or benefit under the act if the member ceases to be a Canadian citizen.

This is in essence a bit of housework on my behalf. It would not apply to the withdrawal allowance payable to a member who ceases to participate in the plan which consists of the return of the member's earlier contributions plus interest.

(Motions deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

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NATIONAL ORGAN DONOR DAY ACT

Mr. Dan McTeague (Ontario, Lib.) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-353, an act respecting a national organ donor day in Canada.

He said: Mr. Speaker, this bill recognizes the efforts of a constituent of mine, Mrs. Linda Rumble of Whitby, Ontario, and the ultimate gift her nephew, two-year old Stuart Alan Herriott, gave to others whom he had never met.

The bill will assist in providing more public education and awareness on organ donation by making every April 21 known as national organ donor day right across this great nation.

April 21 marks the anniversary of the death of Stuart, affectionately known by his family as Stu Buddy. It is hoped that by establishing a national organ donor day more Canadians will be encouraged to make a pledge to organ donation. In doing so, Stuart's supreme gift will be remembered and his act of kindness can be repeated by other Canadians throughout Canada.

(Motions deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

PETITIONS

QUEBEC REFERENDUM

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege to present a petition from my constituents reaffirming the importance of a united Canada.

This petition is signed and supported by French as well as English speaking Canadians, by aboriginal Canadians and by those Canadians who have come from other countries.

It is an honour for me to represent these cultures as they come together to voice their desire to keep Canada united and to keep Quebec in Canada.

[Translation]

Clearly, a vast majority of Canadians want a strong, united Canada, as do a large number of French Canadians and other francophones in Canada.