

Privilege

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I too am pleased to join my colleague from Kingston and the Islands, in presenting a petition, pursuant to Standing Order 36, regarding the government's intention to proceed with the goods and services tax.

These petitioners from Merritt and Kamloops, British Columbia point out the very detrimental effect this tax will have on their lives and ask the Parliament of Canada to do what it can to encourage the government to back off from this tax.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, on another matter, the petitioners again from Kamloops, British Columbia, point out that they feel the government's decision to cut back on passenger rail service in Canada was a very regrettable step. They are suggesting that the government consider modernizing VIA Rail services so that the second largest country in the world, Canada, can have a more rapid, economical, safe, convenient, environmentally sound and energy efficient alternative to other means of transportation by maintaining our passenger rail service at an advanced level in the country.

[*Translation*]

CANADA LABOUR CODE—PROTECTION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, today, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I wish to table a petition which concerns the preventive withdrawal of pregnant women from the workplace.

The Canada Labour Code must observe the principle set forth in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and is thus supposed to protect the rights of women.

The regulations on compensation for pregnant women do not consider all the demands of the workplace.

The option of preventive withdrawal from the workplace for pregnant women is one that is both desirable and necessary for women working outside the home.

Mr. Speaker, I myself signed this petition, with residents of Senneterre and Val d'Or who humbly pray and call upon Parliament to give serious consideration to the shortcomings of the legislation when the Canada Labour Code is reviewed and recognize the need for including

provisions in the Code concerning the preventive withdrawal of pregnant women from the workplace.

[*English*]

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Joe Fontana (London East): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I wish to present petitions from residents of southwestern Ontario who continue to call upon this government to withdraw its 7 per cent goods and services tax as it will be inflationary and make us less competitive in the world.

I call upon this government to respect the wishes of the Canadian people and withdraw this tax.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

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

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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PRIVILEGE

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

Mr. Speaker: I would like to advise the House that I have received notice of a question of privilege, first in point of time from the hon. member for Dartmouth, and a second question of privilege from the hon. member for Sudbury.

In reading the notices which both the hon. members have filed with me, it is not completely clear but I suspect that the issue is the same.

I am wondering if the hon. members could clarify that for me because if it is the same issue, I will hear it as one application. Is that agreed?

Mr. MacDonald (Dartmouth): Yes.

Ms. Marleau: Yes.

Mr. Andre: I will not delay the proceedings, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately I have an appointment in my office shortly and I will have to depart before I can hear all the comments. I would like to have the opportunity to respond prior to a decision, if you feel it is appropriate to hear a response before making your decision. If you should find that there is no *prima facie* evidence, I would not want to delay that decision. However, if you feel it is