

## BILL C-43

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I have a number of petitions to table this afternoon. All have been certified correct by the Clerk of Petitions.

The first one is signed by 29 residents, primarily of the community of Thunder Bay which I represent, but also includes the former member for Oshawa, Ed Broadbent who has signed it as well.

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject any proposed restrictive abortion law and to enforce the Canada Health Act by withholding transfer payments to provinces that do not provide universal access to abortion services.

I might add that my son, Adam, also signed that petition. It is a nice thing to know that one's child follows in his father's footsteps.

## GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I have a number of petitions signed by residents, primarily of the riding of Thunder Bay—Atikokan, all dealing with the proposed goods and services tax. These residents who have signed the petitions at the Top Buckle Ski Shop, the senior citizens apartment on Donald Street, Johannen's Variety, Art's Junction, Thunder Bay and the Atikokan Legion all call upon this government to reject the goods and services tax and to find a more appropriate way of raising government revenue.

## RCMP DRESS CODE

**Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Calgary Southwest):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today to present some petitions with the signatures of 15,323 people. They have been certified under Standing Order 36. These people come from Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia and want to retain the uniformity of the RCMP uniform.

These petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to preserve the distinctive heritage and tradition of the RCMP by retaining the uniformity of the dress code with all the recognizable colour and trappings that have such great historical value for this country. The pride and *esprit de corps* should not be jeopardized by any concessions to religious or ethnic minorities which result in changes to this truly great police force and its proud traditions in uniform.

*Routine Proceedings*

This brings the total signatures for these petitions that I have presented in the House to over 140,323.

[Translation]

## TAX BENEFITS FOR NORTHERN AND ISOLATED AREAS

**Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, today, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I wish to table a petition from Matagami concerning the recommendations of the Task Force on Tax Benefits for Northern and Isolated Areas.

Matagami is without question an isolated area, and that is why your petitioners consider the Brunelle recommendation to be discriminatory, unfair and inefficient as it concerns the northern tax benefits system. It offers no encouragement to people in the North and no incentive to make use of northern resources.

[English]

## GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to present a petition signed by dozens of constituents in Kingston who are opposed to the goods and services tax proposed by the government.

They call upon Parliament to agree with those of us who sit on the opposition side of the House to oppose the goods and services tax, to reject the goods and services tax and to vote the bill down.

I know that in presenting the petition some of my colleagues on the other side of the House are facing pressures from their constituents to follow our good example and do likewise.

## VIA RAIL

**Mr. Robert E. Skelly (Comox—Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, I have a number of petitions to present certified correct under Standing Order 36.

The first one has to do with the continuation of the VIA Rail service. As I pointed out before, this is a timely petition since Vancouver Island has been able to retain, through court action, the VIA Rail service on Vancouver Island by having the Supreme Court of B.C. declare that this is a condition by which British Columbia entered Confederation and that should Canada decide to cancel passenger service there it would be a unilateral breach of the terms of union and B.C. would end up out of Confederation.