

Petitions

[Translation]

PETITIONS**OPPOSITION TO TAX ON FOOD**

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to meet a commitment which I made to a group of my constituents who were visiting the Byward Market in my riding, to present a petition which complies with Standing Order 106 and which reads as follows:

Whereas, since September, 1984, the federal Government has imposed on Canadian taxpayers 24 new taxes or tax increases, in particular on medical and dental supplies, snack foods, candy and soft drinks;

Whereas the federal Government in its tax reform proposal has studied the possibility of imposing on Canadians a general tax on goods and services, including food;

And whereas food constitutes a vital element of day-to-day life and imposition of this tax would have the effect of seriously penalizing certain categories of taxpayers, such as the aged, families, the unemployed, low and middle income taxpayers, and youth;

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject all measures that would have the effect of imposing a sales tax on food products.

[English]

CANADA POST—OPPOSITION TO CORPORATE PLAN

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition signed by several dozen constituents in the Communities of Thessalon, Bruce Mines and Desbarats calling on the Government to reverse the plan of Canada Post to eliminate thousands of Post Offices, reduce service, and even remove the identity of a number of communities.

FERMI II NUCLEAR REACTOR—REVIEW PROCESS

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, I have another petition in a series from my constituents concerning the Fermi II nuclear reactor in the U.S. just 10 miles from the Canadian border. This petition is signed by 256 Canadians from Amherstburg and Essex.

It stresses the tremendous dangers evident in the safety record of this particular nuclear plant and tremendous problems with its accident record. It forcefully calls on the Government to intervene to see to it that there is a neutral safety review, including both Canadians and Americans, before this reactor is permitted to operate at full capacity.

IMMIGRATION—ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria—Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour and duty to present a duly-certified petition from a number of residents of various communities in my riding. The 180 petitioners express their concern that illegal immigrants

are now allowed to enter Canada. They ask that the Government remedy the situation by making boat people return to where they came from, forcing them to abide by our immigration laws.

HIGHWAY SAFETY STANDARDS—REAR SEAT-BELTS—AIR BAGS

Mrs. Thérèse Killens (Saint-Michel—Ahuntsic): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present petitions signed by over 150 people from the Cities of Brantford, Hamilton and London, Ontario, New Westminster, British Columbia, Ottawa, Dalhousie, New Brunswick, indeed from across the country, who call upon Parliament to amend existing safety standards for rear seat-belts in passenger cars.

The petitioners believe rear seat-belts in passenger cars are at present inadequate and the cost of medical care for car crash victims can be reduced or eliminated. For those reasons the petitioners urge Parliament to institute mandatory installation of three point adjustable lap and shoulder seat-belts for rear seat passengers. They also ask for installation of front seat air bags.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO FAIR ORAL HEARINGS BEFORE REFUGEE BOARD

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106, I present two sets of petitions. The first is signed by residents of the Cities of Toronto, Scarborough, Burnaby, Vancouver, and Richmond. Essentially they request the Government to implement an accessible, fair and expeditious refugee determination system by deleting from Bill C-55 the reference to increased screening and the safe third country concept, and improving the Federal Court of Appeal mechanism.

CONSTITUTIONAL ACCORD—RECOGNITION OF MULTICULTURALISM

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): The second petition deals with the Meech Lake Accord and is signed by residents of Calgary, Etobicoke and North York. They ask the Government to amend the opening clause of the Constitution to recognize Canada's multicultural heritage as a fundamental characteristic of this country.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

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

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.