

*Petitions*

Saskatchewan, two in Manitoba, 15 in Ontario, Cap de la Madeleine and Trois Rivieres in Quebec, and Whitehorse in the Yukon.

This petition was designed and brought forward by Kids First, a 1,200 member organization. It was started by two Calgaryans, Teresa Del Frari, who has a Bachelor of Commerce degree and is a chartered accountant, and Brenda Ringdahl, who has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and is a registered nurse.

This petition states: "It is becoming increasingly common to learn of accounts of government encroachment upon the parental responsibility of child care decision-making; and government child care incentives do not consider the validity of parental care as a viable alternative to out-of-home child care; and parents are in the best position to determine what is the most appropriate and beneficial form of child rearing; and a considerable number of Canadians believe that the state, and their tax dollars, have no place in the area of child care which is a parental responsibility, except in cases of demonstrated financial need."

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to act upon the problem of this limitation in choice for child care, and restore to the system fairness and justice, by opposing any form of national child care policy that does not provide equality of choice, thereby leaving the child care decision-making process with the parents where it belongs. In duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

## CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present to the House two petitions. One petition is from members of the communities of Shellbrook and Holbein in my constituency who call upon Parliament to dissolve and allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject the free trade agreement during a national general election. The petitioners state that the Government did not have a mandate to proceed with the agreement, and it compromises the sovereignty of Canada.

CALL FOR RESEARCH INTO PREVENTION AND CURE OF  
SCHIZOPHRENIA

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, the second petition is from a group of residents in my constituency who call upon Parliament to ensure that research efforts related to schizophrenia will, in the future, be commensurate with the seriousness of the illness in Canada.

The petitioners point out that schizophrenia is a major illness in Canada, affects a large number of people, and that only minimal support is given to it.

## CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

**Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from a number of Canadians who indicate that the Conservative Government had no mandate from the

Canadian people to conclude a free trade agreement with the United States, and that the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) promised in the course of the bilateral trade negotiations that Canadian sovereignty would not be compromised.

The trade agreement negotiated by the Mulroney Government threatens the very fabric of Canadian political and economic sovereignty by removing the power of the Canadian Government to effectively control foreign ownership, to develop Canadian energy resources in the best interests of Canadians, or to equalize opportunities between the regions.

Therefore the undersigned petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to dissolve and allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject the proposed trade agreement during a national general election.

## PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF THE UNBORN

**Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River):** Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in presenting a petition signed by more than 100 Canadians from Airdrie, Crossfield, Calgary; and Ottawa, Limoges, and Gloucester in Ontario, which call upon Parliament to pass into law legislation that will protect the life of the unborn child from conception and at all stages of development, with the exception of the extremely rare situation in which an abortion is performed in order to save the life of the mother. As in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

IMMIGRATION—INCLUSION IN FAMILY CLASS—SPONSORING OF  
PARENTS

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present a petition from a number of residents of the constituency of Spadina and adjacent constituencies. The petition covers two points, one of which has already been addressed by the Minister. It is the matter of the inclusion of unmarried children of any age in the family class.

The other point that these petitioners have asked for has not yet been addressed. Two years ago, the then Justice Minister promised to eliminate the unfair distinction between Canadian citizens and permanent residents who have been here for three years or longer in order that people of either group would have equal right to sponsor parents of any age. This promise has not yet been addressed during the past two years. Therefore, the undersigned citizens and residents of Canada call upon the House of Commons to ensure that the Government fulfils its promise now.

## CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

**Mr. Dan Heap (Spadina):** Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition signed by a number of residents of Spadina. The petitioners are concerned that the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) has undertaken to negotiate with the President of the United States a so-called free trade agreement for which he has no mandate from the people of Canada. They point out that this will interfere with Canadian decisions by Parliament or others to develop our energy resources and to equalize the