

Mr. Michael Mantha: The bill amends the Retail Sales Tax Act to provide for a rebate in respect to the Ontario portion of the harmonized sales tax for the supply of home heating energy sources, home heating equipment and home heating services. The Lieutenant Governor in Council can make regulations prescribing rules relating to the rebate. The bill provides that the rebate is available upon the comprehensive integrated tax coordination agreement between Ontario and Canada and is amended accordingly.

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): Further introduction of bills? The member from Windsor–Tecumseh.

Mr. Percy Hatfield: I move second reading of Bill Pr13, An Act to revive Walker Town Centre—

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): That's not doable. It's a PR bill. It's got to go to committee. Sorry.

Interjection.

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): To the member from Windsor–Tecumseh, it will be part of orders of the day.

Before we move to the next section, I just want to remind members on an ongoing basis—a gentle reminder—that we do introduce bills. The tradition and the practice is to read from the explanatory notes. I've heard some good examples and I've also heard examples of not reading from the explanatory notes. You also can condense the explanatory notes—which I acknowledge one member did—which is a good thing. The idea is: no commentary, no introductions; just the explanatory notes. So I'd appreciate your co-operation.

MOTIONS

HOUSE SITTINGS

Hon. Yasir Naqvi: I move that pursuant to standing order 6(c)(i), the House shall meet from 6:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. tonight, Wednesday, December 10, 2014, for the purpose of considering government business.

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): Mr. Naqvi moves that, pursuant to standing order 6(c)(i), the House shall meet from 6:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. tonight, Wednesday, December 10, 2014, for the purpose of considering government business. Do we agree? I heard a no.

All those in favour, say "aye."

All those opposed, say "nay."

In my opinion, the nays have it.

Call in the members. This will be a five-minute bell.

The division bells rang from 1546 to 1551.

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): All members please take their seats.

All those in favour of the motion, please rise one at a time and be recognized by the Clerk.

Ayes

Albanese, Laura
Anderson, Granville
Baker, Yvan

Flynn, Kevin Daniel
Fraser, John
Gravelle, Michael

McMahon, Eleanor
Meilleur, Madeleine
Milczyn, Peter Z.

Balkissoon, Bas
Berardinetti, Lorenzo
Bradley, James J.
Chiarelli, Bob
Colle, Mike
Coteau, Michael
Crack, Grant
Del Duca, Steven
Delaney, Bob
Dhillon, Vic
Dickson, Joe
Dong, Han

Hoggarth, Ann
Hoskins, Eric
Hunter, Mitzie
Jaczek, Helena
Kiwala, Sophie
Lalonde, Marie-France
Leal, Jeff
MacCharles, Tracy
Mangat, Amrit
Martins, Cristina
Mauro, Bill
McGarry, Kathryn

Naidoo-Harris, Indira
Naqvi, Yasir
Potts, Arthur
Qaadri, Shafiq
Rinaldi, Lou
Sandals, Liz
Vernile, Daiene
Wong, Soo
Wynne, Kathleen O.
Zimmer, David

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): All those opposed, please rise one at a time and be recognized by the Clerk.

Nays

Armstrong, Teresa J.
Arnott, Ted
Barrett, Toby
Bisson, Gilles
Clark, Steve
Fife, Catherine
Forster, Cindy
French, Jennifer K.
Gates, Wayne
Gretzky, Lisa
Hardeman, Ernie
Hatfield, Percy

Hillier, Randy
Horwath, Andrea
MacLeod, Lisa
Mantha, Michael
McDonell, Jim
McNaughton, Monte
Miller, Norm
Miller, Paul
Munro, Julia
Natyshak, Taras
Nicholls, Rick
Pettapiece, Randy

Sattler, Peggy
Scott, Laurie
Singh, Jagmeet
Smith, Todd
Taylor, Monique
Vanthof, John
Walker, Bill
Wilson, Jim
Yakabuski, John
Yurek, Jeff

The Clerk of the Assembly (Ms. Deborah Deller): The ayes are 43; the nays are 34.

The Speaker (Hon. Dave Levac): I declare the motion carried.

Motion agreed to.

PETITIONS

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Mr. Rick Nicholls: This is perhaps the shortest petition in the history of this Legislature.

"To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"We request that the Legislative Assembly of Ontario keep the obstetrics unit open at Leamington District Memorial Hospital."

I approve of this petition, affix my name to it and give it to Mikaila, who is from Leamington.

FIRST RESPONDERS

Mr. Taras Natyshak: I'm pleased to present a petition that reads:

"To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"Whereas emergency response workers (paramedics, police officers, and firefighters) confront traumatic events on a nearly daily basis to provide safety to the public; and

"Whereas many emergency response workers suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of their work; and

"Whereas Bill 2 'An Act to amend the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997 with respect to post-traumatic stress disorder' sets out that if an emergency

response worker suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, the disorder is presumed to be an occupational disease that occurred due to their employment as an emergency response worker, unless the contrary is shown;

"We, the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to unanimously endorse and quickly pass Bill 2 'An Act to amend the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997 with respect to post-traumatic stress disorder'."

I wholeheartedly agree with this petition and will give it to page Moiz to deliver to the Clerks' table.

COAL-FIRED GENERATING STATIONS

Ms. Daiene Vernile: This is a petition on ending coal for cleaner air in Ontario.

"To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"Whereas Ontarians have growing concerns surrounding climate change and the quality of our air, it is integral that more is done to provide Ontarians with cleaner air;

"Whereas the combustion of coal to generate electricity is conducive toward higher levels of carbon dioxide emissions, which pollute the air and contribute immensely toward climate change;

"Whereas the cessation of coal use as a means of generating electricity in the Atikokan, Lambton, Nanticoke, and Thunder Bay generating facilities will result in cleaner air for Ontarians, which will ensure the long-term preservation of our air, environment, and public health;

"We, the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

"That all members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario support Bill 9, the Ending Coal for Cleaner Air Act, to stop generating facilities from using coal to produce electricity, which will eliminate high levels of carbon dioxide emissions and will in turn ensure cleaner air for Ontarians now and for future generations."

Mr. Speaker, if I can have your attention, I sign this petition, and I shall give it to Albany.

HEALTH CARE FUNDING

Mr. Jim McDonell: I have a petition to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

"Whereas recent hospital bed closures at Winchester District Memorial Hospital highlighted the need for stable and reliable funding for hospitals in order to maintain their ability to provide sufficient beds, staffing and resources to patients; and

"Whereas other cuts to health services such as those to in-residence physiotherapy and blood sugar test strips leave vulnerable citizens, especially seniors, at higher risk of debilitating conditions and accidents; and

"Whereas all Ontario residents deserve an efficient, affordable and accessible health care system;

"We, the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

"To immediately review health funding levels and strategies with a view to increasing patients' access to both acute and chronic care, including through increased funding for hospital, retirement and long-term-care beds, increased home care provision, health support supplies such as insulin pumps and increased access to affordable or free preventive care."

I agree with this and will be handing it off to page Tyler.

1600

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Mr. Percy Hatfield: I have a petition from right across Ontario.

"To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are progressive, degenerative diseases of the brain that cause thinking, memory and physical functioning to become seriously impaired;

"Whereas there is no known cause or cure for this devastating illness; and

"Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias also take their toll on hundreds of thousands of families and care partners; and

"Whereas Alzheimer's disease and other dementias affect more than 200,000 people in Ontario today, with an annual total economic burden rising to \$15.7 billion by 2020; and

"Whereas the cost related to the health care system is in the billions and only going to increase, at a time when our health care system is already facing enormous financial challenges; and

"Whereas there is work under way to address the need, but no coordinated or comprehensive approach to tackling the issues; and

"Whereas there is an urgent need to plan and raise awareness and understanding about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias for the sake of improving the quality of life of the people it touches;

"We, the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

"To approve the development of a comprehensive Ontario dementia plan that would include the development of strategies in primary health care, in health promotion and prevention of illness, in community development, in building community capacity and care partner engagement, in caregiver support and investments in research."

Speaker, I agree with this petition. I will sign my name to it and give it to Ella to take up to the desk.

HYDRO RATES

Mr. Jim McDonell: I have a petition to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

"Whereas the Green Energy Act has driven up the cost of electricity in Ontario due to unrealistic subsidies for