



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Bill 696

**An Act to incite municipalities to adopt
by-laws governing free play in streets and
lanes in order to promote healthy lifestyle
habits among children and young people and
further family well-being**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr. Simon Jolin-Barrette
Member for Borduas**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The purpose of this bill is to incite municipalities to adopt by-laws allowing and governing free play in streets and lanes in order to promote healthy lifestyle habits among children and young people through physical activity and to further family well-being.

The bill seeks to establish a regulatory framework to ensure the safety of persons participating in free play. Under it, despite any provision to the contrary, a municipality may adopt a by-law allowing free play in its streets and lanes and determining such things as the safety standards and signage rules applicable to free-play zones, the criteria for designating a zone where free play is allowed and the public consultation process involved in establishing such zones.

Bill 696

AN ACT TO INCITE MUNICIPALITIES TO ADOPT BY-LAWS GOVERNING FREE PLAY IN STREETS AND LANES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE HABITS AMONG CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AND FURTHER FAMILY WELL-BEING

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The purpose of this Act is to promote free play in municipalities' streets and lanes in order to promote healthy lifestyle habits among children and young people and further family well-being.

2. Despite section 500 of the Highway Safety Code (chapter C-24.2) or any other provision to the contrary, a municipality may, by by-law, allow free play in its streets and lanes.

The by-law determines, in particular,

- (1) the safety standards applicable in the zones where free play is allowed;
- (2) the signage rules for designating zones where free play is allowed;
- (3) the rules for creating a committee responsible for determining whether an area can be designated a zone where free play is allowed;
- (4) the procedure to be followed by the committee responsible for determining whether an area can be designated a zone where free play is allowed;
- (5) the criteria for designating a zone where free play is allowed; and
- (6) the public consultation process for establishing zones where free play is allowed.

3. This Act comes into force on *(insert the date of assent to this Act)*.

