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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Bill 172

**An Act to amend the Act respecting the  
Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries  
et de l'Alimentation mainly to establish  
a bio-food policy**

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**Introduction**

**Introduced by  
Mr. Laurent Lessard  
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

*This bill amends the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation mainly to establish a bio-food policy.*

*The Minister is responsible for developing and proposing to the Government a bio-food policy containing the Government's policy directions and objectives relating to agriculture, fisheries and food. The Minister is also responsible for implementing the policy and coordinating its carrying out, in collaboration with the departments and bodies concerned. The Minister shall organize an annual meeting of the stakeholders in the bio-food sector to discuss whether the policy's objectives are being met. The Minister may amend the policy with the Government's approval and is required to review it every five years. However, the Minister may defer the review for up to two years with the Government's approval. The bill determines the manner in which the policy is disseminated.*

*Lastly, the Minister shall, every 10 years, analyze the Acts under the Minister's responsibility, examine the possibility of reviewing them and report on the analyses performed to the Government. The Minister then tables the analysis report for each Act in the National Assembly. On the expiry of the 10-year period, the Minister may submit an overall report to the Government and the National Assembly.*

## **LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:**

– Act respecting the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation (chapter M-14).

## Bill 172

### AN ACT TO AMEND THE ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE, DES PÊCHERIES ET DE L'ALIMENTATION MAINLY TO ESTABLISH A BIO-FOOD POLICY

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE, DES PÊCHERIES ET DE L'ALIMENTATION

**1.** The Act respecting the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation (chapter M-14) is amended by inserting the following division after section 18:

#### “DIVISION III.1

#### “BIO-FOOD POLICY

“**18.1.** The Minister shall develop a bio-food policy containing the Government's policy directions and objectives regarding agriculture, fisheries and food, and propose it to the Government.

The purpose of the policy is, in particular,

- (1) to take into consideration the food concerns of consumers and the public;
- (2) to support sustainable development of the bio-food sector; and
- (3) to promote the consultation and involvement of the stakeholders in this sector.

“**18.2.** The Minister shall ensure the implementation of the policy and coordinate its carrying out in collaboration with the departments and bodies concerned, if applicable.

As part of the policy's implementation, the Minister shall also foster concerted action between the stakeholders in the bio-food sector. To that end, the Minister shall organize an annual meeting to discuss whether the policy's objectives are being met.

“**18.3.** The Minister may amend the policy with the Government's approval.

**“18.4.** The Minister shall review the policy every five years and submit it to the Government for approval.

The Minister may, with the Government’s approval, defer a policy review for a period of not more than two years.

**“18.5.** The Minister shall make the policy available on the department’s website and by any other means the Minister considers appropriate.”

**2.** The Act is amended by inserting the following division after section 36.16:

**“DIVISION VII.3**

**“PERIODIC REVIEW OF ACTS**

**“36.17.** The Minister shall, not later than (*insert the date that is 10 years after the date of coming into force of this Act*), and subsequently every 10 years, have completed the analysis of the Acts under his responsibility and examined the possibility of reviewing them.

After completing the analysis of an Act, the Minister shall report on it to the Government. The Minister shall table the report in the National Assembly within the next 30 days or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 30 days after resumption.

On the expiry of the 10-year period, the Minister may also submit an overall report to the Government. The Minister shall table the report in the National Assembly in the manner provided for in the second paragraph.”

**FINAL PROVISION**

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