

Date: Wednesday, 19 May 1999 – No. 32

Heure: Ten o'clock

Président: Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau

---

The Assembly was called to order at 10.01 o'clock a.m.

---

### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

#### **Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition**

Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure) moved:

THAT the National Assembly ensure that the Québec Government actually give the Régie de l'énergie the necessary independence in the fulfillment of its initial mandate.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: ten minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and five minutes shall be set aside for the independent Member; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group shall be added to that of the other group while any time not used by the independent Member may be redistributed amongst the parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mrs. Normandeau;

At the end of his speech, Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the motion by the Member for Bonaventure be amended:

- 1° by replacing the words "Québec Government actually give" by the words "Government continue to grant";
- 2° by replacing the words "fulfillment of its mandate" by the words "implementation of its constituting act".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ensure that the Government continue to grant the Régie de l'énergie the necessary independence in the implementation of its constituting Act.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on the main motion by Mrs. Normandeau and on the amendment by Mr. Brassard, subject to the latter being ruled in order, which Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, took under advisement.

After having heard comments from both sides and upon conclusion of the debate, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, rendered the following decision on the receivability of the amendment by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader:

#### RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The motion to amend is not receivable on the grounds that it reverses the principle of the substantive motion.

The question was then put on the motion by Mrs. Normandeau; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings later on in today's sitting.

**19 May 1999**

---

At 12.02 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

---

The proceedings resumed at 2.02 o'clock p.m.

---

Moment of reflection

### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Presenting Papers**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) tabled the following:

The report on the election observation mission of the Francophonie that she undertook as delegate of the Région Amérique of the Assemblée parlementaire de la francophonie (APF), on the occasion of the legislative election held in Benin on 30 March 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 319-19990519)

#### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mrs. Carrier-Perreault (Les Chutes-de-la-Chaudière), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 13 May 1999 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

15 An Act to amend the Watercourses Act – Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 320-19990519)

---

**19 May 1999**

---

Mr. Rioux (Matane), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which met on 18 May 1999 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 6 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société de la Place des Arts de Montréal and the Act respecting the Société du Grand Théâtre de Québec – Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 321-19990519)

Mr. Williams (Nelligan), vice-chairman, tabled the following:

Reports from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 18 May 1999 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bills:

- 2 An Act respecting the reform of government accounting policies – Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 322-19990519)

- 9 An Act respecting Financement-Québec – Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 323-19990519)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Landry, Minister of Revenue, tabled the following:

A document on the suspension of sixteen computer contracts, at the Ministère du Revenu, stating those that may be resumed and those still currently suspended.

(Sessional Paper No. 324-19990519)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) tabled the following:

The list of groups and delegates having unsuccessfully requested a public hearing on the

**19 May 1999**

---

automobile insurance plan (Bill 24).

(Sessional Paper No. 325-19990519)

### **Deferred Divisions**

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition earlier in today=s sitting, on the motion moved by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ensure that the Québec Government actually give the Régie de l=énergie the necessary independence in the fulfillment of its initial mandate.

The motion was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. 23 in Appendix)

Yeas: **37**    Nays: **58**    Abstentions: **0**

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Copeman (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) moved:

THAT the Québec National Assembly mark Early Childhood Centres and School Day Care Week, which is being held from 16 to 22 May 1999.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

---

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Natural Resources, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Tree and Forest Week, which is being held from 16 to 22 May 1999 and whose theme is "Au coeur de nos vies" (In the

heart of our lives).

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

---

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved a motion concerning the passage in principle of Bill 190, An Act to amend the Labour Code and the Act respecting labour standards; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

**Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- X the Committee on Social Affairs, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 27, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services as regards access to users= records;
- X the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its public hearings within the framework of special consultations on the securement of Hydro-Québec=s transmission and distribution network in the regions affected by the January 1998 ice storm;
- X the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 34, An Act to amend the Civil Code as regards names and the register of civil status.

---

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- X the Committee on Public Administration shall continue hearing the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services on prehospital emergency services in Québec, pursuant to the *Act respecting the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies*, and shall then examine the financial commitments of the Ministère des Transports contained in the lists for the months of April 1997 to March 1998 and April 1998 to March 1999.

19 May 1999

---

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Government Bills

#### *Passage in Principle*

Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, moved, —That Bill 4, An Act respecting Immobilière SHQ, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 4 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 4 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain.

---

Mrs. Goupil, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 32, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning de facto spouses, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 32 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 32 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

---

Mrs. Goupil, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 38, An Act to amend the Civil Code as regards publication of certain rights by means of a notice, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 38 was accordingly passed in principle.



**19 May 1999**

---

On motion by Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 38 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

---

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, informed the Assembly that a debate upon adjournment would be held on Thursday, 20 May 1999, between Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) and Mr. Chevette, Minister of Transport, about the holding of public hearings in parliamentary committee on Bill 24, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Automobile Insurance Act and other legislative provisions.

*Passage in Principle*

Mrs. Goupil, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 37, An Act to amend the Code of Penal Procedure, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 37 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 37 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

*Report Stage*

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 25, An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to building and the construction industry.

After debate thereon, the report was concurred in.

---

At 5.09 o'clock p.m., on the motion by Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned until Thursday, 20 May 1999, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**19 May 1999**

---

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*

19 May 1999

---

## APPENDIX

### Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure) moved during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition:

(Division No. 23)

#### YEAS - 37

Beauchamp	Després	Lamquin-Éthier	Ouimet
Bélanger	Dumont	Leblanc	Paradis
Bordeleau	Dupuis	Loiselle	Pelletier
Bourbeau	Fournier	Maciocia	(Chapleau)
Brodeur	Gautrin	MacMillan	Poulin
Chagnon	Gobé	Marcoux	Sirros
Cholette	Houda-Pepin	Marsan	Tranchemontagne
Copeman	Jérôme-Forget	Middlemiss	Williams
Cusano	Kelley	Mulcair	
Delisle	Lamoureux	Normandeau	

#### NAYS - 58

Arseneau	Bertrand	Cliche	Gagnon
Baril	(Portneuf)	Côté	Gendron
(Arthabaska)	Blanchet	(Dubuc)	Geoffrion
Baril	Boisclair	Côté	Goupil
(Berthier)	Boulerice	(La Peltrie)	Harel
Beaudoin	Boulianne	Cousineau	Jolivet
Beaumier	Brassard	Désilets	Kieffer
Bédard	Caron	Deslières	Labbé
Bégin	Carrier-Perreault	Dion	Landry
Bergeron	Charest	Dionne-Marsolais	Laprise
Bertrand	(Rimouski)	Duguay	Leduc
(Charlevoix)	Chevrette	Facal	Léger

**19 May 1999**

---

Lelièvre	Ménard	Pelletier	St-André
Lemieux	Papineau	<i>(Abitibi-Est)</i>	Trudel
Léonard	Paquin	Rioux	Vermette
Maltais	Paré	Robert	
Marois	Payne	Rochon	

**ABSTENTIONS - 0**