



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 495

**An Act to authorize the recording of
sound and images during the public
sittings of a municipal council or the
public meetings of a council of a
metropolitan community**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Madam Isabelle Melançon
Member for Verdun**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill reaffirms that municipal council sittings and metropolitan community council meetings are open to the public.

In addition, the bill specifies that a person may not be prevented from attending a sitting or meeting on the grounds that the person is not resident in the territory of the municipality or metropolitan community.

Lastly, the bill expressly authorizes the recording of sound and images by a person attending a municipal council or the council of a metropolitan community, while allowing the council to regulate this right.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Cities and Towns Act (chapter C-19);
- Municipal Code of Québec (chapter C-27.1);
- Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (chapter C-37.01);
- Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec (chapter C-37.02).

Bill 495

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE RECORDING OF SOUND AND IMAGES DURING THE PUBLIC SITTINGS OF A MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OR THE PUBLIC MEETINGS OF A COUNCIL OF A METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

CITIES AND TOWNS ACT

1. The Cities and Towns Act (chapter C-19) is amended by inserting the following section after section 321:

“321.1. The sittings of the council are public.

A person may not be prevented from attending a sitting on the grounds that the person is not resident in the territory of the municipality.

A person attending a sitting may not be prevented from recording sound and images during that sitting. However, the council may, by by-law, determine the conditions of that recording.”

2. Section 322 of the Act is amended by striking out the first paragraph.

MUNICIPAL CODE OF QUÉBEC

3. Article 149 of the Municipal Code of Québec (chapter C-27.1) is amended by adding the following paragraphs at the end:

“A person may not be prevented from attending a sitting on the grounds that the person is not resident in the territory of the municipality.

A person attending a sitting may not be prevented from recording sound and images during that sitting. However, the council may, by by-law, determine the conditions of that recording.”

ACT RESPECTING THE COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE DE MONTRÉAL

4. The Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (chapter C-37.01) is amended by inserting the following section after section 27:

“27.1. The meetings of the council are public.

A person may not be prevented from attending a meeting on the grounds that the person is not resident in the territory of the Community.

A person attending a meeting may not be prevented from recording sound and images during that meeting. However, the council may, by by-law, determine the conditions of that recording.”

5. Section 28 of the Act is amended by striking out the first paragraph.

ACT RESPECTING THE COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE DE QUÉBEC

6. The Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec (chapter C-37.02) is amended by inserting the following section after section 19:

“19.1. The meetings of the council are public.

A person may not be prevented from attending a meeting on the grounds that the person is not resident in the territory of the Community.

A person attending a meeting may not be prevented from recording sound and images during that meeting. However, the council may, by by-law, determine the conditions of that recording.”

7. Section 20 of the Act is amended by striking out the first paragraph.

FINAL PROVISION

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