



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 594

**An Act to improve the quality of care
through the setting of ratios in
certain institutions governed by the
Act respecting health services and
social services**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr. André Fortin
Member for Pontiac**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill amends the Act respecting health services and social services to improve the quality of care.

To that end, the Government must determine a maximum number of patients per nurse, nursing assistant and beneficiary attendant in certain departments of hospital centres and in residential and long-term care centres.

Furthermore, the bill provides for the establishment of an advisory committee entrusted with making recommendations to the Government on the maximum number of patients per nurse, nursing assistant and beneficiary attendant that should be set in a government regulation. The committee is also responsible for producing a report on the implementation of the regulation and on the regulation's impact on the quality of care.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Act respecting health services and social services (chapter S-4.2).

Bill 594

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE THROUGH THE SETTING OF RATIOS IN CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS GOVERNED BY THE ACT RESPECTING HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL SERVICES

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

ACT RESPECTING HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL SERVICES

1. The Act respecting health services and social services (chapter S-4.2) is amended by inserting the following sections after section 504:

“504.1. The Minister shall establish an advisory committee entrusted with making recommendations to the Government on the maximum number of patients per nurse, nursing assistant and beneficiary attendant to be set in a regulation made under section 506.3.

The committee shall be composed of seven members, as follows:

(1) one person designated by the Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec;

(2) one person designated by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec;

(3) one person designated by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers auxiliaires du Québec;

(4) one person designated by the Fédération professionnelle des Préposé(e)s aux Bénéficiaires du Québec;

(5) one person designated by the Collège des médecins du Québec;

(6) one executive director of an institution operating a hospital centre; and

(7) one executive director of an institution operating a residential and long-term care centre.

“504.2. The advisory committee must, not later than 31 December 2020 and subsequently every five years, report to the Government on the implementation of the regulation made under section 506.3 and on the regulation’s impact on the quality of care.

The report shall be tabled in the National Assembly by the Minister within 30 days after its receipt or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 30 days of resumption. The competent committee of the National Assembly shall examine the report.”

2. The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 506.2:

“**506.3.** The Government must, after consultation with the advisory committee provided for in section 504.1, set by regulation the maximum number of patients per nurse, nursing assistant and beneficiary attendant in the following places:

(1) the surgery, general medicine, specialized medicine and emergency medicine departments of a hospital centre, and the mixed units that include any of those departments; and

(2) residential and long-term care centres.”

FINAL PROVISIONS

3. The Government must, not later than (*insert the date that is one year after the date of assent to this Act*), make the regulation provided for in section 506.3 of the Act respecting health services and social services (chapter S-4.2), enacted by section 2 of this Act.

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