



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Order Paper and Notices

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 6 October 2021 – No. 213

Nine forty a.m.

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis**

Part 1
ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *The 40th anniversary of the Native Para-Judicial Services of Quebec.*
- The Member for Verdun on the following subject: *Underline the passing of Ms. Andrée Boucher.*
- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Trisha Bacon.*
- The Member for Bourassa-Sauvé on the following subject: *Crisis unit in Montréal-Nord for Haiti.*
- The Member for Chapleau on the following subject: *Mr. Paul Morin.*
- The Member for Mercier on the following subject: *Social cohabitation in Plateau Mont-Royal.*
- The Member for Beauharnois on the following subject: *An act of bravery at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield's General Dynamics factory.*
- The Member for Matane-Matapédia on the following subject: *40 years since René Lévesque announced the Sayabec Uniboard plant.*
- The Member for Huntingdon on the following subject: *Congratulations to COMMUNIC-ACTION on 25 years in the Haut-Saint-Laurent RCM.*
- The Member for Jean-Talon on the following subject: *Underline the 10th anniversary of Québec ville en rose.*

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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Part 2

ORDERS OF THE DAY

BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE

URGENT DEBATES

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OTHER BUSINESS

I. Government Bills

Passage in Principle

- (1) Bill 30
An Act to recover amounts owed to the State
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and
Chair of the Conseil du trésor on **14 June 2019**

- (2) Bill 61
An Act to restart Québec's economy and to mitigate the consequences of the
public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the
COVID-19 pandemic
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and
Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 3 June 2020
Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on
11 June 2020
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for La Pinière on
12 June 2020

- (3) Bill 96
An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for the French Language on
13 May 2021

- (4) Bill 101
An Act to strengthen the fight against maltreatment of seniors and other persons of full age in vulnerable situations as well as the monitoring of the quality of health services and social services
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Informal Caregivers on 9 June 2021
Report of the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on **5 October 2021**
- (5) Bill 102
An Act mainly to reinforce the enforcement of environmental and dam safety legislation, to ensure the responsible management of pesticides and to implement certain measures of the 2030 Plan for a Green Economy concerning zero emission vehicles
Introduced by the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change on **5 October 2021**.

Committee Stage

- (6) Bill 23
An Act respecting the names and responsibilities of certain ministers and government departments and to enact the Act respecting the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 18 April 2019
Passed in principle on **19 September 2019**, and
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance
- (7) Bill 39
An Act to establish a new electoral system
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Democratic Institutions, Electoral Reform and Access to Information on 25 September 2019
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on 11 February 2020
Passed in principle on **8 October 2020**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

- (8) Bill 49
An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions
Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on 13 November 2019
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain (consultations) tabled on 27 April 2021
Passed in principle on **25 May 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
- (9) Bill 92
An Act to create a court specialized in sexual and domestic violence and respecting training of judges in these matters
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on 15 September 2021
Passed in principle on **22 September 2021**, and
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

- (10) Bill 100
Tourist Accommodation Act
Introduced by the Minister of Tourism on 8 June 2021
Report of the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 14 September 2021
Passed in principle on 15 September 2021, and
Report of the Committee on Labour and the Economy tabled on **5 October 2021**

Passage

II. Private Members' Public Bills

Passage in Principle

- (11) Bill 190
An Act to exclude child support payments from income calculation under various social laws
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **7 December 2018**

- (12) Bill 191
An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to prescribe the publication of information on the use of the amounts granted to Members in the performance of their duties
Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **6 December 2018**
- (13) Bill 192
An Act to recognize the Members' oath to the people of Québec as the sole oath required for Members to take office
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **28 February 2019**
- (14) Bill 193
An Act to establish a budgetary shield to protect education, child and youth protection services
Introduced by the Member for Joliette on **7 February 2019**
- (15) Bill 194
An Act to ensure compliance with Québec's climate change-related obligations
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **21 February 2019**
- (16) Bill 195
An Act to amend the Act respecting the National Assembly to extend the scope of the right to payment of expenses for counsel
Introduced by the Member for Chomedey on **11 April 2019**
- (17) Bill 196
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to establish a Passe-Sports register to collect data on the state of health of persons under 18 years of age following a concussion
Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **11 April 2019**
- (18) Bill 198
An Act to facilitate disclosure of wrongdoings
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **9 May 2019**

- (19) Bill 199
An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **25 September 2019**
- (20) Bill 391
An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **30 May 2019**
- (21) Bill 392
An Act respecting the selection of Québec senators
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **9 May 2019**
- (22) Bill 393
An Act to affirm Québec's participation in the appointment process for Québec Supreme Court of Canada judges
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **16 May 2019**
- (23) Bill 396
An Act to amend the Civil Code to provide that an action for damages for bodily injury resulting from a sexual aggression, from childhood violence or from the violent behaviour of a spouse or former spouse cannot be prescribed during the lifetime of the author of the act
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **12 June 2019**
- (24) Bill 397
An Act to reinforce oversight of the processes to select, renew a term of or dismiss directors of municipal police forces
Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on **14 November 2019**
- (25) Bill 398
An Act to proclaim Québec Democracy Day
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **20 February 2020**

- (26) Bill 399
An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **5 November 2019**
- (27) Bill 490
An Act to establish the gradual electrification of Québec's vehicle fleet
Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques on
26 September 2019
- (28) Bill 491
An Act to combat food waste
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on
12 November 2020
- (29) Bill 492
Right-to-Disconnect Act
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **3 June 2020**
- (30) Bill 493
Interculturalism Act
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **30 October 2019**
- (31) 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
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **20 November 2019**
- (32) Bill 496
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **14 November 2019**
- (33) Bill 497
An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms in order to strengthen the protection of seniors' rights and create the office of Seniors Ombudsperson
Introduced by the Member for Rimouski on **4 December 2019**

- (34) Bill 590
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to establish free French instruction services for every person who resides in Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jacques-Cartier on **4 December 2019**
- (35) Bill 591
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to define the circumstances under which an employer may make knowledge of a language other than the official language a requirement for access to employment or a position
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **12 February 2020**
- (36) Bill 592
An Act to amend the Act respecting the flag and emblems of Québec to enhance the presence of the flag of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **11 June 2021**
- (37) Bill 593
An Act to change the minimum age required to be a qualified elector
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **10 June 2021**
- (38) 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
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **26 May 2020**
- (39) Bill 595
An Act to create the Rent Register
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **4 June 2020**
- (40) Bill 596
An Act to establish Pharma-Québec
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **15 September 2020**
- (41) Bill 597
An Act to improve support offered to entrepreneurs and farmers in relation to mental health
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **10 June 2020**

- (42) Bill 598
An Act to authorize the holder of a restaurant sales liquor permit to sell, for takeout or delivery, spirit-based alcoholic beverages
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **12 June 2020**
- (43) Bill 599
An Act to respect sexual orientation and gender identity
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **22 September 2020**
- (44) Bill 690
An Act to amend the Charter of the French language to specify that it applies to private enterprises operating in an area of federal jurisdiction
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **24 September 2020**
- (45) Bill 691
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec
Introduced by the Member for Mont-Royal–Outremont on **30 September 2020**
- (46) Bill 692
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to prohibit fighting in sports activities in which persons under 18 years of age participate
Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **21 October 2020**
- (47) Bill 693
An Act to amend the Election Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in the context of political activities
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **22 October 2020**
- (48) Bill 694
An Act to regulate appointments to certain senior positions
Introduced by the Member for René-Levesque on **10 June 2021**
- (49) Bill 695
An Act to set a standard for the maximum concentration of manganese in drinking water
Introduced by the Member for Vaudreuil on **9 December 2020**

- (50) Bill 696
An Act providing for the temporary suspension of the right to increase the rent for a lease of a dwelling
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **10 February 2021**
- (51) Bill 697
An Act to promote the disclosure of wrongdoings and strengthen the protection of whistleblowers
Introduced by the Member for Jonquière on **17 March 2021**
- (52) Bill 698
An Act to temporarily limit the charges that restaurateurs may be required to pay for online order services and meal delivery services
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **18 February 2021**
- (53) Bill 699
Act to promote integration of immigrants by organizing welcome ceremonies for newcomers
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **1 April 2021**
- (54) Bill 790
An Act to amend the Act respecting labour relations, vocational training and workforce management in the construction industry to right the power imbalance
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **15 April 2021**
- (55) Bill 791
An Act respecting the implementation of study-family-work balance policies in particular in higher education institutions
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **30 September 2021**
- (56) Bill 792
An Act to enhance the transparency of municipal councils
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **14 April 2021**
- (57) Bill 794
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Institut de la statistique du Québec to facilitate the production and circulation of statistical information
Introduced by the Member for Marie-Victorin on **21 April 2021**

- (58) Bill 795
An Act to permanently limit the amount of certain charges payable by restaurateurs when they retain the delivery services of a third person
Introduced by the Member for Rosemont on **27 May 2021**
- (59) Bill 796
An Act respecting the Agence des infrastructures de transport du Québec
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **1 June 2021**
- (60) Bill 797
An Act to amend the Business Corporations Act to include benefit corporations
Introduced by the Member for Robert-Baldwin on **26 May 2021**
- (61) Bill 798
An Act to entitle employees to a “vaccine break” to receive a COVID-19 vaccination
Introduced by the Member for Gouin on **6 May 2021**
- (62) Bill 890
An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to financial assistance for education expenses
Introduced by the Member for Bonaventure on **27 May 2021**
- (63) Bill 893
An Act to facilitate the marketing of Québec microdistillers’ and microbrewers’ products
Introduced by the Member for Rouyn-Noranda–Témiscamingue on **10 June 2021**
- (64) Bill 894
An Act to prohibit petroleum exploration and production
Introduced by the Member for Sainte-Marie–Saint-Jacques on **16 September 2021**
- (65) Bill 897
An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to guarantee the right to receive childcare services
Introduced by the Member for LaFontaine on **29 September 2021**

Committee Stage

(66) Bill 197

An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods

Introduced by the Member for Chomedey on 9 April 2019

Passed in principle on **13 April 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations

(67) Bill 793

An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec

Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on 26 May 2021

Passed in principle on **10 June 2021**, and

Referred to the Committee on Institutions

Report Stage

Passage

III. Private Bills

Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration

(68) Bill 217

An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic
Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal

Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on
11 November 2020, and

Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy

Passage in Principle

(69) Bill 219

An Act respecting an immovable located on Rue University in Montréal (on
the Royal Victoria Hospital site) (*modified titled*)

Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on
11 November 2020

Report of the Committee on Public Finance passed on **14 September 2021**

Passage

IV. Government Motions

V. Estimates of Expenditure

VI. Statutory Debates

BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION

- (70) 6 October 2021
Motion by the Member for Jonquière

THAT the National Assembly recall the Québec government's demands made on 17 September 2019 and on 26 August 2021 by the Premier in the context of the last two federal election campaigns;

THAT it call for the modification of the legislative framework for environmental assessments in order to provide that only the Québec environmental impact assessment and review procedure should apply to projects under Québec jurisdiction;

THAT it demand that the federal funds allocated to the fight against climate change and targeting sectors under Québec jurisdiction should be subject to a block transfer to the Québec government;

THAT it pass in principle Bill 391, *An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act in order to assert the primacy of Québec's jurisdiction in this area*.

Part 3

BILLS PASSED

(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)

Bill 59

An Act to modernize the occupational health and safety regime
Passed on 30 September 2021

Bill 97

An Act to amend the Act respecting energy efficiency and energy conservation
standards for certain electrical or hydrocarbon-fuelled appliances
Passed on 30 September 2021

Bill 99

An Act to amend mainly the Food Products Act
Passed on 30 September 2021

Part 4

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

*The detailed calendar of the proceedings of each committee
is available on the Internet site of the Assembly*

COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

- Hearing of the Secrétariat du Conseil du trésor on the Report on the application of the *Public Administration Act*.
- Hearing of the Société d’habitation du Québec on Chapter 4 of the Auditor General of Québec’s October 2020 report on housing projects entitled “AccèsLogis Québec Programme: Réalisation des projets d’habitation” as a follow-up to recommendation 2.1 of the 41st report from the Committee on Public Administration.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques on Chapter 2 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner’s June 2020 report entitled “Eco-Taxation, Cross-Compliance and Eco-Responsibility for a Green and Responsible Economy”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques and the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l’Habitation on Chapter 3 of the Sustainable Development Commissioner’s June 2020 report entitled “Conservation of Water Resources”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de la Famille on its administrative management and financial commitments, as well as on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General of Québec’s October 2020 report entitled “Access to Educational Childcare Services”.
- Hearing of the Ministère de l’Économie et de l’Innovation on its administrative management and financial commitments.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Order of reference

- Examination of Hydro-Québec’s Strategic Plan 2020-2024 (Order of reference given on 5 December 2019).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Examination of the policy directions, activities and management of the Régie de l’énergie.

COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 49**, An Act to amend the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, the Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act and various legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 25 May 2021).

Order in compliance with the Standing Orders

Surveillance of public bodies and accountability:

- Hearing the Commission municipale du Québec.

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 96**, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec (Order of reference given on 14 September 2021).

Statutory order

- Hearing the heads of educational institutions at the university level.

COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 217**, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 11 November 2020).

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 23**, An Act respecting the names and responsibilities of certain ministers and government departments and to enact the Act respecting the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (Order of reference given on 19 September 2019).

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- **Bill 92**, An Act to create a court specialized in sexual and domestic violence and respecting training of judges in these matters (Order of reference given on 29 September 2021).

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 39**, An Act to establish a new electoral system (Order of reference given on 8 October 2020).
- **Bill 92**, An Act to create a court specialized in sexual and domestic violence and respecting training of judges in these matters (Order of reference given on 22 September 2021).
- **Bill 793**, An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec (Order of reference given on 10 June 2021).

COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

Order of reference

Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 197**, An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods (Order of reference given on 13 April 2021).

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EVOLUTION OF THE ACT RESPECTING END-OF-LIFE
CARE

Order of reference

Special Consultations:

- Examine the issues related to extending medical aid in dying to persons who are incapable of caring for themselves or who are suffering from a mental illness (Order of reference given on 31 March 2021).

Part 5

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

*Questions already placed on the Order Paper
are published each Wednesday*

247) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **14 September 2021**
To the Minister of Transport

On 11 May 2018, the federal government announced a new rail bypass for Lac-Mégantic to ensure that trains would no longer travel through its downtown core. According to the agreement reached by the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec to cover the cost of the 12 km bypass estimated at \$133 million, Québec will pay 40% of the cost, while the federal government will pay the rest. The 5-year project is slated for completion in 2023. As a result, trains should be using the bypass 10 years after the tragedy.

In December 2019, Canadian Pacific (CP) completed its acquisition of the Central Maine & Québec Railway (CMQR). It became involved in the project as of October 2020 during the initial phase consisting in carrying out the feasibility analysis. According to the Transport Canada timetable, the plans and specifications were to be completed in 2021 and construction was to begin in 2021 for commissioning in 2023.

Since the spring of this year, Mr. François Charbonneau, a retired engineer, has been calling on the various levels of government to recognize that it will be impossible to meet the 2023 deadline unless they take charge of the situation and shift into high gear.

Finally, on 27 May of this year, Ottawa and CP reached an agreement to ensure that the initial deadline would be met, even though the President and CEO of CP had clearly stated that the 2023 target was unrealistic unless the government assumed all the financial risks associated with carrying out the engineering and construction phases simultaneously.

This portion of the railway is under federal jurisdiction. However, in light of the Québec government's 2018 commitment to invest more than \$53 million, it is only reasonable that the Minister of Transport be entitled to have a say regarding the anticipated construction delay, which will probably result in additional costs. The people of Lac-Mégantic deserve to have this rail bypass built by the prescribed 2023 deadline so that they can live in a safer environment, as the tragedy has left many scars.

My questions to the Minister are the following:

1. Does the cost sharing for the construction of the Lac-Mégantic bypass entitle the Minister of Transport to take action to ensure the work is completed within the prescribed period?
2. Considering Québec's major investment in the construction of the bypass, will it be possible for the Government of Québec to follow up with the Government of Canada to know all the details of the agreement made to ensure that the bypass is completed by 2023?
3. Given CP's late arrival in the feasibility study phase, which is taking longer than planned, and the control CP will have over the entire project without contributing financially, will it be possible for the Government of Québec to ask CP's management to specify the date it intends to begin the plans and specifications phase?

(248) Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) – **14 September 2021**

To the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change

Citizens of Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville and of Chambly have recently brought to my attention the air pollution caused by crematoriums. Today, I would like to ensure that the Minister of the Environment will be giving this matter special attention. Chapter VIII of the Clean Air Regulation (CAR) deals specifically with crematoriums and animal incinerators, which are not considered incinerators and are therefore not subject to the stricter standards and rules in CAR's Chapter VII, which governs other incinerators.

Their sole requirement is to report, every five years, the concentration of total particles emitted into the atmosphere, without identifying the particles or analyzing samples of the other contaminants emitted. Yet scientific articles and Canada's Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory show that crematoriums emit 10 of the 12 most toxic contaminants denounced by the WHO and the Stockholm Convention.

According to the Canadian inventory, in 2019, crematoriums emitted just as much if not more dioxins and mercury than the most polluting companies. Crematoriums and animal incinerators do not use a filtration system, nor are they required to do so under Québec regulations.

However, these facilities are located in residential areas without buffer zones to protect sensitive areas near childcare centres, schools and homes.

Forty percent of the 85 crematoriums in Québec are located less than 20 metres from homes and 87% are less than 300 metres away. This is illegal in many countries and other Canadian provinces, including Ontario where a buffer zone of up to 500 metres is required.

Every day, thousands of Quebecers must endure this environmental pollution that affects their quality of life and needlessly jeopardizes their health.

Considering the foregoing, our questions to the Minister are the following:

1. Why are crematoriums and animal incinerators not subject to the same regulations as incinerators that require sample analyses and annual reporting of the contaminants they emit into the atmosphere?
2. Why are they allowed to be located near homes, childcare centres, schools and parks and needlessly expose Québec families to the most toxic contaminants?
3. What does the Minister intend to do to remedy this situation, which is socially unacceptable and runs counter to all sustainable development efforts?

(249) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin)
To the Minister of Education

In the factsheet “Enseigner et apprendre dehors” (outdoor teaching and learning) published in June 2020 and created in collaboration with the Fondation Monique-Fitz-Back, your department acknowledged the positive links between the outdoor learning approach and benefits such as student engagement, healthy lifestyles, critical and creative thinking, a heightened awareness of environmental responsibility and a greater sense of community. However, the outdoor learning approach is based on a specific program to be followed and curriculum to be learned, with common learning goals to be obtained. As a result, the target goals are mainly academic and the chances of broadening the scope are diminished.

In that context, a working committee comprised of citizens in my riding has taken steps to establish an alternative school with the forest school approach in Longueuil. The learning method proposed by the working committee for this new alternative school retains the concepts of respect for humans and their environment, community involvement and mutual assistance promoted by alternative schools that provide outdoor learning, and it is unique in that it is student centred and each child's overall development is ensured through a wide array of experiences, exploration, free play and discovery. The forest school approach is also part of a long-term process in which the academic structure may include diverse disciplines, such as meditation, risk management, gardening and interaction with nature. Although the aim is not to attain immediate measurable results, this approach does provide students the benefits of outdoor learning, and more.

The reputation of forest schools in Scandinavian countries, where the concept was introduced in the 1950s, is well established and the success of their approach is proven. Such schools are increasingly popular around the world and can be found in France, Denmark, Germany, England and the United States. In Québec, the pilot project École Forêt Nature in the Mauricie region yielded promising results after its first year of activities in 2016, but without being officially recognized by the Ministère de l'Éducation. The alternative primary school Saules-Rieurs in Verdun appears to be on track to meet the educational objectives for its target date in 2022.

It took more than four years of effort for the working group in my riding to finally gain the potential support of the Centre de services scolaire Marie-Victorin. However, facilitating the development of this type of school would not only help to decentralize academic institutions, but also meet a growing need for such schools and make more options available to the parents of school-age children, with an educational framework they want.

My question is the following:

Will the Minister commit to considering

- streamlining the process for developing alternative forest schools in order to make it simpler and faster;
- recognizing and supporting initiatives to provide forest learning activities;
- promoting the forest school approach, which is student-centred and ensures each child's overall development through regular, high-quality contact with nature?

(250) Mr. Gaudreault (Jonquière) – **14 September 2021**

To the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

On 9 July of this year, Hydro-Québec confirmed that the Saint-Narcisse dam, which entered into service in 1925, would be dismantled. The state-owned enterprise also stated that this decision was final.

However, the dam has an important heritage value for many residents of the municipality as well as for its mayor. Many were hoping that another project would be implemented in its facilities.

Consequently, as regards this project:

1. I would like to ask the Minister to make public the studies he has regarding the dam's dismantling, restoration and refurbishing.
2. I would also like the Minister to make public the information he has regarding the dam's condition.
3. I would like to know what steps the Minister has taken to ensure a proper assessment of the different options for the dam.

(251) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **15 September 2021**
To the Government

In just 10 years, the number of Quebecers aged 75 and older will jump by 50%, or nearly 400,000 people.

It is obvious that the number of places in CHSLDs, which has remained around 40,000 for the last 15 years, should, according to experts, increase by approximately 2,000 per year over a period of 20 years.

I will remind you that Québec already has more residents in CHSLDs, intermediate resources and private seniors' residences (PSRs) than elsewhere in Canada and in the world. In fact, 9.4% of Quebecers aged 65 and older live in long-term residences, compared to 7% in Canada as a whole and 4% in countries such as France, Norway and the Netherlands.

The result during this COVID period: More than 5,210 people living in CHSLDs – that is 13% of the 40,000 Quebecers living in these residences – have died.

Over 50% of the 10,000 deaths in Québec have occurred in CHSLDs, and to this I add 20% of deaths occurring in private seniors' residences (PSRs). What a sad record. By comparison, long-term care centres accounted for 43% of deaths in France, 34% in the United Kingdom, and 28% in Germany.

But, unfortunately, this disaster does not stop there, the confinement and isolation measures employed to try to counter COVID in our CHSLDs, intermediate resources and private seniors' residences (RPA) have caused an acceleration in cognitive decline in many elderly people.

We have all heard accounts of seniors talking of being left all alone in small rooms where you lose all your references, go crazy and die of boredom. It was scandalous to see them shut inside, wandering around in circles not knowing what to do. Their dignity was violated. We have just lived through an unacceptable episode of ageism.

Understanding how the oldest of us survived and recovered from this crisis may well be useful in the face of further lockdowns and possible future pandemics.

This pandemic has put a strain on everyone's nerves. Faced with a heightened level of mental stress, seniors have had to find strategies to distance themselves from the realities of the pandemic. We have to listen to what they have to say.

We must listen, defend and protect them. Because Québec is not doing a good job of protecting its most vulnerable. I know that the situation is complex and full of nuances. However, these nuances will not change Québec's horrible track record during this crisis: I repeat, more than 5,000 seniors have died since the beginning of March 2020.

It must also be said that in Québec aging does not necessarily mean being dependent. Becoming dependent is not the destiny of every person who is growing older in our society.

The question is whether this chance to live a long, healthy life will turn into a disaster or will result in many more positive opportunities.

We are undergoing a heightened sense of awareness of the importance of knowing the whole truth about how our elders were treated during this pandemic, of the need to have an ombudsperson to defend elders' rights and ensure going forward that we create a society that adapts to our aging population to ensure the opportunity to age well and with dignity in Québec.

My questions are the following:

1. Will the Government act quickly following the tabling of this preliminary report to set up an independent, roving public inquiry commission to look into the circumstances that led to this disaster?
2. Will the Government call up Bill 497 in order to examine it and create an office of Seniors Ombudsperson?
3. Will the Government carry out as soon as possible the holding of an Estates General on the adaptation of our society to the aging of the population?

(252) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **16 September 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

In June of this year, Health Canada approved Trikafta, a breakthrough medicine to treat people living with cystic fibrosis.

Cystic fibrosis is the most common fatal disease affecting Canadian children and young adults. It causes various effects on the body, but mainly affects the digestive system and lungs. The persistence and ongoing infection in the lungs eventually lead to death in the majority of people with the disease.

A Canadian study published in the *Journal of Cystic Fibrosis* found that access to Trikafta as of 2021 would result in considerable health benefits for Canadians with the disease. By 2030, Trikafta could reduce the number of people living with severe lung disease by 60% and the number of deaths by 15%.

Health Canada's approval of Trikafta means that physicians can now prescribe the drug to their cystic fibrosis patients. However, before everyone who needs the drug can benefit from it, public and private prescription drug insurance plans must agree to reimburse it.

The ball is now in the Québec government's court, since it must now decide whether public and private plans will reimburse this extremely costly drug.

My question to the Minister of Health and Social Services is the following:

Does the Minister intend to make the drug Trikafta available to all Quebecers who need it through prescription drug insurance?

(253) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **16 September 2021**
To the Government

Ever since our ancestors settled here, access to the sea, in particular port infrastructures, has played a central role not only in our economy, but also in our daily lives. Abandoning, neglecting or failing to invest the amounts needed to keep these infrastructures in operation would be the equivalent of sweeping under the rug the profound nature and the reality of Québec's maritime regions.

On 30 March 2020, the federal government transferred four ports in eastern Québec, including the port of Rimouski, to the Québec government. I could go on and on about the poor deal made by the Couillard government the year before but, unfortunately, we cannot rewrite that contract, which is very disadvantageous for Québec. This agreement only provides for slightly more than \$148 million for the upgrading **and** operation of the ports of Rimouski, Matane, Gaspé and Gros-Cacouna. Considering Ottawa's neglect to maintain these infrastructures in the past, we know that amount is laughable.

Rimouski is already a maritime innovation zone. How is it possible that the federal government allowed the Rimouski port to deteriorate to the point that the Coriolis II, a key research vessel used by the Institut des sciences de la mer (ISMER) maritime science centre, can no longer be based there? To tolerate such an absurd situation is to deny the obvious quality of our scientific researchers in this field.

The current Québec government can show greater foresight and wisdom than its predecessors, in particular the federal government. The new port authority for eastern Québec is considering projects that would allow the port of Rimouski to regain its previous status, including for citizens who use it for recreation and for visitors, who can admire the unique view of the magnificent maritime city of Rimouski.

My questions to the Minister are the following:

1. In the wake of the federal government's 30 March 2020 transfer of the port of Rimouski, does the Québec government recognize the lack of funding allocated to it in the transfer agreement?
2. Considering the vital socio-economic role it plays in the region, can the Québec government definitively assure us that the funding for the work at the port of Rimouski is not limited to the amounts in the blundered 2019 agreement with Ottawa and confirm that as part of its new maritime policy, Rimouski can count on funding to improve and develop its infrastructure?

(254) Ms. Dorion (Taschereau) – **21 September 2021**
To the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity

I would like to draw the Minister of Social Solidarity's attention today to the situation, in particular, of persons receiving benefits under the Social Solidarity Program or Social Assistance Program who need assistive devices provided by CISSS and CIUSSS professionals, whose physical disabilities make them also eligible for assistive devices under the MSSS's AVQ-AVD program. These include a wide range of devices such as toilet seats, syringes, walkers, walking canes, etc.

The important thing to understand here is that a two-tiered system currently exists in our health and social services network. Here is a concrete example to illustrate my point for the Minister. Ms. Tremblay is not receiving benefits under the Social Assistance Program or Social Solidarity Program. She undergoes an in-home assessment by a health professional from her local CLSC. Based on the assessment, it is determined that she needs an adjustable toilet seat or a bath bench. Her occupational therapist, physiotherapist or nurse then fills out a material assistance request form for the CLSC's AVQ-AVD program. The completed form is then evaluated by a health professional team, and, if approved, the cost of the devices is fully covered by the AVQ-AVD program and a long-term loan is made. However, when Ms. Caron, a Social Assistance Program recipient, needs the same seat, additional steps are required because she has a paying agency. A special benefit is granted by the MTESS to the MSSS for this type of assistive device resulting in it being partially covered by the MTESS and partially by the AVQ-AVD program. The AVQ-AVD program pays the balance still owing once the MTESS has granted its amount. To obtain this special benefit, a doctor's prescription is required as well as two price estimates from specialized stores. For example, for an electric bed costing \$2,000, the MTESS will pay \$435 and the AVQ-AVD program covers the balance. However, for a person with a disability who is not a social assistance recipient, the MSSS will cover 100% of the costs through its AVQ-AVD program. This process is simpler, faster, more efficient and requires less work time for CISSS and CIUSSS health professionals. No doctor or specialist doctor is required.

For a toilet seat costing \$39, a health professional paid on average \$48 per hour must take several hours of their time to obtain documents from a doctor or health specialist, then sent to the MTESS officer to obtain a SR-006 form (for a special benefit authorization). The authorization must then be signed by the beneficiary and submitted to the AVQ-AVD program, in the case of an MTESS beneficiary. As most such beneficiaries do not have a family physician, they end up going to an emergency room or walk-in medical clinic to obtain said prescriptions, which have been previously

partially written up by CLSC professionals (to be signed by a doctor). Otherwise, the CLSC professionals have to retrace, contact, track down and take up doctors, precious time with this and then wait several weeks for said prescriptions to be sent by fax. Most often these same professionals have to search for the prescriptions because the beneficiaries often have severe disabilities that make it difficult to perform this type of task. All of this is not without mentioning the fact that some specialists and their administrative assistants are even contacted for assistive devices that could be prescribed by the health professionals the patients are already in contact with. In the midst of a shortage of family doctors, this seems like a rather strange allocation of resources.

It would be in the MTESS's interest to simply transfer the maximum eligible amount directly to the CLSCs at the request of the CLSC professionals, thus avoiding the need for medical prescriptions and price estimates. This would save the MSSS unnecessary salary expenses, paid simply to transfer small amounts from one government department to another.

In light of the aforementioned, my questions to the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity are as follows:

- Does the Minister intend to set up a system for transferring the maximum eligible amount directly to a CLSC at the request of a CLSC health professional, thus avoiding the need for prescriptions and price estimates?
- If not, does the Minister intend to streamline the special benefit program to allow social assistance or social solidarity recipients to obtain prescriptions/recommendations for these assistive devices from the university-educated professionals authorized to do so by the CISSS and CIUSSS rather than doctors?

(255) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **22 September 2021**
To the Government

Early childcare workers and educators working in the region's childcare centres (CPEs) have been without a work contract for 18 months. These people are essential for our families and for the regional economy. Now more than ever, it is essential to promote their profession by improving their working conditions.

In August, the Government announced 430 childcare spaces for the Bas-Saint-Laurent region, including 334 spaces for my riding. This is, of course, good news that I took the time to recognize. However, stakeholders in the sector and the Minister himself agreed that finding the workers to make these new spaces operational was a formidable challenge.

In order to meet this challenge of recruitment and of a critical shortage of personnel, which unfortunately leads to interruptions in service, it is obvious that better working conditions must be offered to CPE workers. It is inconceivable that the Government has left these people without a collective agreement for 18 months.

CPE workers are demanding, in particular, a fair wage increase for all job titles, the means to provide better services to children, including children with special needs, and compliance at all times with ratios for the children's safety. They also want the time to prepare the children's records and manage the kitchen.

In order to ensure a true economic recovery and allow parents to return to their work, the Government must act quickly to meet the demands of CPE workers and train new educators who are motivated by more respectful working conditions.

My question is the following:

Does the Government intend to improve the working conditions of CPE workers, considering that a lack of human resources in CPEs has serious impacts on the quality of life of families and the economic recovery?

(256) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **27 May 2021**
To the Government

In the 1990s, oil companies competed fiercely. At that time, you could fill your tank for about 40 cents a litre – something that is hard to imagine when today we are paying three to four times as much, depending on the region. That price war resulted in the closure of many independent gas stations further reducing opportunities for competition in certain markets, particularly in my riding of Rimouski.

Ultimately, this left a multitude of gas stations abandoned. In Rimouski alone, which has 50,000 inhabitants, a good half-dozen of these abandoned installations still scar the city centre landscape and sides of busy arteries, including Route 132 which runs along the St. Lawrence.

What's more, nothing obliges gas station operators – most often, very profitable oil companies – to decontaminate the land they own or lease, even if for years it represented a highly lucrative, but polluting, business. As a result, we currently find ourselves in a situation where very successful companies can simply leave without any environmental accountability.

They leave the buildings that no longer serve them to rot and decay, leaving the task of decontaminating the hydrocarbon-laden soil to possible future owners or tenants. It's not hard to understand why potential buyers are not rushing to purchase such properties; as such, we continue to be subjected to polluted urban environments and ground soils while no one is held accountable, often for many years. I can point out such a location in my constituency that has been abandoned for at least three decades.

Furthermore, there does not appear to be a register of Québec's abandoned gas stations that we can consult. With the expected electrification of automobiles, we expect this phenomenon to worsen. We must therefore address this matter now.

My question to the Minister is the following:

Will the Government commit to legislate to put a stop to the reckless abandonment of gas stations and to oblige the owners or tenants of these installations to dismantle them and to decontaminate the land before the conclusion of any transaction and within a year of closing?

(257) Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) – **23 September 2021**

To the Minister of Health and Social Services

Minister,

I was recently approached by Dr. Anne-Isabelle Dionne, President and CEO of the Centre médico-sportif Axis, a not-for-profit organization located in Montérégie offering multidisciplinary health services, including cardiovascular rehabilitation services, to over 400 patients of the Pierre-Boucher hospital in Longueuil and the Honoré-Mercier hospital in Saint-Hyacinthe.

She contacted me following receipt, last March 29, of a letter she received from Ms. Maryse Hébert, director of multidisciplinary services at CISSS Montérégie Est, announcing the end of their contractual agreement and by the same token, their principal source of funding. Indeed, the CISSS Montérégie Est, which provided \$372,000, a considerable amount, to the Centre, will terminate the service agreement on 30 September 2021, given that a new cardiovascular rehabilitation service will eventually be offered directly by the CISSS at the Pierre-Boucher hospital in Longueuil. However, in addition to the hundreds of thousands of dollars that will have to be reinvested in order to build from zero a cardiovascular rehabilitation program similar to the one that already exists at the Centre médico-sportif Axis, the CISSS Montérégie-Est's cardiovascular rehabilitation service is currently still not available, resulting in a months-long disruption of services for the population.

In this context, Dr. Dionne took steps to try to obtain adequate, constant funding for the Centre from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation, without however obtaining any conclusive financial commitment so far for the organization. As a result, with the financial support from CISSS Montérégie-Est nearing its end, and in the perspective that it would have been counterproductive to duplicate the same service, the representatives of the organization had to make the heartbreaking decision to withdraw the cardiovascular rehabilitation component from the services offered by the Centre médico-sportif Axis. Instead, they have reoriented and broadened their services, gearing them toward the prevention and reversal of chronic diseases through the optimization of lifestyle habits, in particular, by addressing diabetes, hypertension, obesity and heart disease.

As a result, the Centre médico-sportif Axis continues to set itself apart with an intervention approach to enhance health that is based first and foremost on systematic front-line screening and preventive diagnosis, specifically through risk factor assessment. All with the aim of preventing the onset of chronic diseases, reducing their

severity or reversing them completely, or even preventing a complication related to a health condition, which would otherwise generate significant costs for the health system. The Centre's health professionals and practitioners, which include physicians, nurses, nutritionists, kinesiologists, pharmacists, psychosocial workers, meditation teachers, etc., collaborate with, but above all, complement one another, in order to offer multidisciplinary services to patients. Their preventive intervention approach to enhancing health allows them all the latitude needed to provide personalized support to and guide their patients toward healthier behaviours and lifestyles, by promoting more balanced daily health choices regarding nutrition, sleep, stress, sport, environmental quality, and even social relationships. This intervention approach is proving to be more necessary than ever given that the current health crisis is affecting individuals with unhealthy lifestyles and, above all, with chronic diseases, more severely.

It should also be noted that this initiative by the Médico-Sportif Axis Centre has resulted in concrete substantial savings to Québec's health system. We are talking about \$1,060,300 per year in institutional health care for 256 patients (data after only 2.5 years of operation, including the period closed at height of pandemic). This represents a minimum savings of \$4,142 per patient per year, for a one-time participation in a rehabilitation and prevention program at less than half the cost. The positive impact of the Centre's interventions on patients' health is therefore measurable and can also be replicated throughout Québec.

Support for this type of initiative would make it possible to improve the services Québec hospitals offer, in addition to reducing CISSS and CIUSSS administrative and bureaucratic burdens. The multidisciplinary services offered by the Axis Medico-Sports Centre also meet the population's growing demand for access to alternative health enhancement resources rather than medications. We must remember that the MSSS 2015–2020 strategic plan provides that spending for medications to treat diseases directly related to lifestyle habits is approximately \$2 billion. This cost could be reduced by supporting alternative health enhancement resources, such as the Axis Medico-Sports Centre. In short, this is a concrete and comprehensive initiative with a high potential for return on investment.

My question to the Minister is the following:

Will the Minister undertake to consider the following points, namely:

- Take into account experiences such as that of the Axis Medico-Sports Centre;
- Recognize and support initiatives such as that of the Axis Medico-Sports Center;
- Fund this type of initiative in the form of a pilot project in Québec.

(258) Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) – **28 September 2021**
To the Minister of Education

Last May, the Minister of Education published the results of data gathered regarding students in complex situations who have experienced or are experiencing a breakdown in education services, and he was very concerned about the number of students affected.

The data revealed that approximately 1,500 students' right to education was not respected at all; the study did not take into account students who were not studying full-time.

Can the Minister tell us what actions have been taken to put an end to this breakdown in services, and whether these actions have reduced the number of students experiencing them?

(259) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **28 September 2021**
To the Minister of Health and Social Services

On 22 October 2019, a motion on coverage for continuous positive airway pressure machines for people with sleep apnea was unanimously carried: "THAT the Assembly urge the Government to broaden the scope, as soon as possible, of the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec's public coverage to include continuous positive airway pressure machines, required by people suffering from sleep apnea, after the conclusion of the work of the working committee recently formed by the Government and made up of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, physicians, managers and the Association des pneumologues du Québec."

On 22 October 2020, at a press briefing, the Member for Jonquière and the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine reiterated the National Assembly's unanimous commitment to this and noted the Government's inaction.

On 11 March 2020, the previous Minister of Health and Social Services reiterated this commitment during the examination of the Supplementary Estimates. She indicated that the sums necessary to reimburse sleep apnea machines under the Québec Infrastructure Plan were being discussed.

On 10 March 2021, the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine tabled a petition in the National Assembly repeating this need.

According to the Institut national d'excellence en santé et services sociaux (INESSS), around 3.5% of middle-aged women and 5% of adult men in Québec have obstructive sleep apnea. In 2017, that represented 417,000 people.

My question to the Minister of Health and Social Services is the following:

Is there a planned deadline for meeting this commitment?

(260) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **28 September 2021**
To the Government

In my riding, citizens welcomed with great appreciation the Liberal government's announcement of the construction of a Lab-École on 7 November 2017.

This was an expected solution to a serious lack of space for our young students that had existed for several years. On 29 May 2020, the CAQ government announced for its part the construction of a seniors' home with 72 places (48 places for seniors and 24 places for adults with special needs) that could alleviate the shortage of long-term care places for a population of seniors corresponding to a quarter of our total population.

Actors in the education and health sectors have set to work with the collaboration of the City, the locations have been chosen and we are ready for action. But according to a *Journal de Québec* article dated 27 September 2021, projects for new schools and major projects to expand school premises and repair work have had to be put on hold in recent months due to an overheated construction industry.

As for seniors' homes, the real costs linked to this electoral promise by the CAQ raises a lot of questions. How much will the homes cost overall? It will be very expensive: the estimated price is currently close to a million dollars per home in some regions. This includes site design, land acquisition and appraisals, in addition to construction work.

My questions are the following:

What response should we give to the seniors in my riding? Will they see this senior's home get built once and for all? Will they be able to count on alternatives, such as additional investments in home care support?

What response should we give to parents and students in Rimouski? Will they see their new school built by 2022? Does the Government realize that the needs are still there, that the existing premises are no longer sufficient?

(262) Mr. LeBel (Rimouski) – **6 October 2021**
To the Government

On September 23, the Government offered nurses generous bonuses, inviting them to come back to the public health-care network. This news has created great concern among palliative care facilities, which fear a disruption in their services should nurses decide to leave them. Québec's 37 palliative care facilities with their 341 beds and 5,000 annual patients are facing the exact same issues as the public sector when it comes to labour shortages and attracting and retaining personnel to accompany and provide end-of-life care to Quebecers.

Currently, more than 80% of Alliance des soins palliatifs du Québec members are experiencing an approximate 20% staff shortage for the positions of nurses, nursing assistants and orderlies. While MSSS and CISSS/CIUSSS stakeholders are asking palliative care facilities to maintain their bed capacity and service offering, the labour shortage means that staff can barely ensure the continuous presence essential for the quality of care.

The palliative care facilities say they can't offer salary conditions equivalent to public network pay scales and are rightly asking that their financing agreement, which has been under negotiation for nearly a year, be concluded.

To add to the difficulties of retaining their workforce, the bonus allowance plan announced to entice nurses to return to the public network now threatens more than ever the ability of palliative care facilities to overcome this shortage and ensure that their services are maintained.

My question is the following:

Will the Government reply to the palliative care facilities' requests, that is to say:

- 1) confirming the inclusion of caregivers from Québec palliative care facilities in the announced bonus allowance plan; and
- 2) increasing funding to palliative facilities and the immediate signing of a new financing agreement?

Part 6
NOTICES

I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

Government Bills

Private Members' Public Bills

- (a) 5 October 2021
An Act to amend various legislative provisions mainly for the purpose of reducing red tape – *Minister for the Economy*.
- (b) 5 October 2021
An Act to amend the Public Health Act to change the terms of renewal of the declaration of a state of health emergency – *Member for Iberville*.

Private Bills

II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME

- (aa) 6 October 2021
An Act to amend the Election Act to encourage parity between women and men as candidates of political parties in a general election – *Member for LaFontaine*.