



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 69

**An Act to amend the Act respecting
prescription drug insurance**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Madam Pauline Marois
Minister of Health and Social Services**

**Québec Official Publisher
1999**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill amends the basic drug insurance plan to exempt from the payment of any contribution persons receiving benefits under a last resort assistance program or over 60 and under 65 years of age who hold a valid claim booklet issued under the Health Insurance Act, where they have a severely limited capacity for employment.

The bill also specifies that the list of medications whose cost is covered by the basic plan will be drawn up by the Minister in a regulation. The cases in which, conditions on which and therapeutic indications for which the cost of certain medications will be covered by the basic plan will now be determined in a regulation made by the Minister, rather than by the Government.

Bill 69

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ACT RESPECTING PRESCRIPTION DRUG INSURANCE

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS :

1. Section 8 of the Act respecting prescription drug insurance (R.S.Q., chapter A-29.01) is amended

(1) by replacing “drawn up by the Minister” in the third line of the first paragraph by “drawn up by the Minister in a regulation made”;

(2) by striking out “, specified by government regulation,” in the fifth and sixth lines of the first paragraph;

(3) by replacing, in the French text, “par ce” in the last line of the first paragraph by “par le”.

2. Section 28 of the said Act, amended by section 1 of chapter 38 of the statutes of 1997, is again amended by adding “, unless they are exempted pursuant to section 29” at the end of subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph.

3. Section 29 of the said Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end :

“The following persons are also exempted from the payment of any contribution :

(1) persons referred to in paragraph 2 of section 15, where they have a severely limited capacity for employment within the meaning of section 25 of the Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity (1998, chapter 36), and the spouse of such a person within the meaning of that Act;

(2) persons referred to in paragraph 3 of section 15, where they have a severely limited capacity for employment within the meaning of section 25 of the Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity.”

4. Section 60 of the said Act is amended

(1) by inserting “and update periodically, by regulation, after consulting the Conseil consultatif de pharmacologie,” after “draw up” in the first line of the first paragraph;

(2) by replacing the fifth paragraph by the following paragraphs:

“The list shall also contain exceptional medications the cost of which is covered by the basic plan in the cases, on the conditions and for the therapeutic indications determined in a regulation made by the Minister; the conditions may vary according to whether the coverage is provided by the Board or under a group insurance contract or an employee benefit plan.

A regulation made under this section is not subject to the requirements concerning publication and date of coming into force contained in sections 8 and 17 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1). The regulation shall come into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date fixed in the regulation.”

5. Section 61 of the said Act is repealed.

6. Section 78 of the said Act is amended by striking out subparagraph 3 of the first paragraph.

7. Section 79 of the said Act is repealed.

8. Section 80 of the said Act is amended by inserting “Besides any regulation made under section 60,” at the beginning.

9. Until the date of coming into force of section 25 of the Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity (1998, chapter 36), the reference to that section in subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the second paragraph of section 29 of the Act respecting prescription drug insurance, enacted by section 3 of this Act, shall be read as a reference to paragraph 1 of section 6 of the Act respecting income security (R.S.Q., chapter S-3.1.1).

10. The provisions of this Act come into force on the date or dates to be fixed by the Government, except the provisions of sections 2, 3 and 9, which come into force on 1 October 1999.