



Votes and Proceedings
Tuesday, 7 May 2002 - No. 96

Ten o'clock
President : Mrs. Louise Harel

The paper version of the Votes and Proceedings takes precedence over its electronic equivalent. The headings under the table of contents are neither all-inclusive nor restrictive.

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The Assembly was called to order at 10.05 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Resuming the debate, which had been adjourned on 30 April 2002, on the motion by Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice —That Bill 50, An Act to amend the Civil Code, do now pass in principle;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried on division and Bill 50 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved that Bill 50 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

The motion was carried.

Resuming the debate, which had been adjourned on 9 April 2002, on the motion by Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, —That Bill 68, An Act to amend the Act respecting municipal courts, the Courts of Justice Act and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 68 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved that Bill 68 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

The motion was carried.

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Passage in Principle

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 84, An Act instituting civil unions and establishing new rules of filiation, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 84 was accordingly passed in principle.

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved that Bill 84 be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

The motion was carried.

At 11.24 o'clock a.m., by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, Mr. Brouillet, First Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.05 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Legault, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

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- 96 An Act respecting pre-hospital emergency services and amending various legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

- 99 An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act and other legislative provisions.

- 103 An Act to impose restrictions on pig farming.

The motions were carried.

Mrs. Lemieux, Minister responsible for the Charter of the French Language, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 104 An Act to amend the Charter of the French language.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Facal, Minister responsible for Administration and the Public Service, Chair of the Conseil du trésor, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 91 An Act respecting the extension of certain collective agreements of the public and parapublic sectors.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Jutras, Minister of Public Security, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

89 An Act respecting the Québec correctional system.

100 An Act to amend the Act respecting offences relating to alcoholic beverages, the Act respecting lotteries, publicity contests and amusement machines and the Act respecting liquor permits.

The motions were carried.

Madam President communicated to the Assembly and then laid upon the Table the report from the Law Clerk on the following Private Bill:

216 An Act respecting Municipalité de Caplan.

The report states that this Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-third day of June 2002.

(Sessional Paper No. 1120-20020507)

Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. Lelièvre (Gaspé), then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 216, An Act respecting Municipalité de Caplan.

This motion was carried.

Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, moved that Private Bill 216 be referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain and that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

This motion was carried.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Ménard, Minister of Transport, tabled the following:

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The annual report of the Agence métropolitaine de transport for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 1121-20020507)

Mr. Boisclair, Government House Leader, tabled the following:

Written answer to a petition presented on 13 March 2002 by Mr. Benoit (Orford) concerning the routing of Highway 30 in line with Route 132.

(Sessional Paper No. 1122-20020507)

Written answer to a petition presented on 20 March 2002 by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) concerning the widening of Highway 185.

(Sessional Paper No. 1123-20020507)

Madam President tabled the following:

The report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec concerning the official results of the ballot held on 15 April 2002 in the Electoral Divisions of Anjou, Saguenay, and Viger.

(Sessional Paper No. 1124-20020507)

Copy of the notice of motion by Mr. Béchard (Kamouraska-Témiscouata) which will be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Wednesday, 8 May 2002, under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition.

(Sessional Paper No. 1125-20020507)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Pelletier (Abitibi-Est) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the number of doctors in the Abitibi region and signed by 21,007 citizens from this region.

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(Sessional Paper No. 1126-20020507)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of Madam President, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

At the request of Madam President, Mr. Facal, Minister responsible for Administration and the Public Service, Chair of the Conseil du trésor, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Roger Bertrand, Minister for Health, Social Services, Youth Protection and Prevention, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Mental Health Week, held this year from 5 to 11 May, and whose theme is "Notre santé mentale, c'est notre richesse".

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Bergman (D'Arcy-McGee) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark International Day of the Midwife, which was held last Sunday, 5 May.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Simard, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 54, An Act to reform the Code of Civil Procedure;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its special consultations on Bill 77, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning regional county municipalities;
- the Committee on Education, to continue its special consultations on Bill 66, An Act to amend the Act respecting school elections;
- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 65, Budget Act No. 1 giving effect to the Budget Speech delivered on 29 March 2001 and to certain budget statements;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 72, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act and other legislative provisions with regard to land protection and rehabilitation.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Bissonnet, Third Vice-President, rendered the following decision regarding a point of order raised at the sitting of 1 May 2002 by Mr. Vallières (Richmond) and Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, concerning the Government's answer to a question addressed to the Minister of Education and to the Minister of Health and Social Services, in relation to the cost of asbestos removal work carried out in public buildings.

Following the tabling of this answer, Mr. Vallières (Richmond) and Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, claimed that the question should not have been withdrawn from the *Order Paper and Notices*, since it contained only the part addressed to the Minister of Education.

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RULING FROM THE CHAIR

While the Chair does not have the authority to interfere with the content of an answer nor to decide which Minister answers a question, the question by the Member for Richmond that was placed on the *Order Paper and Notices* of 13 December 2001 is exceptional since it should have been divided into two separate questions, being that it was addressed to two Ministers. It is for this reason that, after having discussed the matter with the House leaders, the question will again be placed on the *Order Paper and Notices*, but it will not include the elements addressed to the Minister of Education for which an answer has already been provided.

Mr. Bissonnet then informed the Assembly that the "Act to amend the Environment Quality Act and the Act respecting the Société québécoise de récupération et de recyclage" placed under Notices Appearing for the First Time on the *Order Paper and Notices* of Thursday, 2 May 2002, in the name of the Minister of the Environment will be withdrawn at the request of the latter.

Finally, he informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 8 May 2002, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Béchar (Kamouraska-Témiscouata). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the Governments of Canada and of Québec fully take their respective responsibilities with regard to the softwood lumber crisis affecting Québec's forest industry, its workers and the regions of Québec.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage

Mr. Julien, Minister of Revenue, moved the passage of Bill 14, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu and other legislative provisions as regards the protection of confidential information.

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After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 14 was passed.

Passage in Principle

Mrs. Papineau, Minister for Industry and Trade, moved, —That Bill 87, An Act to amend the Act respecting Société Innovatech du sud du Québec and the Act respecting Société Innovatech Régions ressources, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

The debate was adjourned in the name of Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun).

Debates Upon Adjournment

The Assembly held two debates upon adjournment:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) to Mr. Legault, Minister of Health and Social Services, about the number of beds made available to emergency ward patients;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Rochefort (Mercier) to Mr. Sylvain Simard, Minister of Education, about the resources available to homosexuals and lesbians in high schools. Mr. Boulerice, Minister for Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, replaced the Minister of Education in this debate.

At 6.25 o'clock p.m., Mr. Beaulne, Second Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 8 May 2002, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

LOUISE HAREL

President

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