



*Votes and Proceedings*  
*Thursday, 18 October 2001 - No. 45*

*Ten o'clock*  
**President : Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau**

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*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.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Government Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

Resuming the debate, adjourned on 13 June 2000, on the motion by Mr. Facal, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, —That Bill 122, An Act to amend the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information, the Act respecting the protection of personal information in the private sector, the Professional Code and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle;

Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the debate.

After debate thereon, the question was put on the motion to adjourn the debate; a recorded division was demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 54 in Appendix)

Yeas: **79**   Nays: **0**   Abstentions: **0**

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At 12.20 o'clock p.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 2.03 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Presenting Papers**

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

The report, dated September 2001, of the committee on the remuneration of the justices of the Cour du Québec and those of the municipal courts.  
(Sessional Paper No. 549-20011018)

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Mr. President tabled the following:

A copy of a letter dated 18 October 2001 that he had received from Mr. Bernard Landry, Prime Minister, appointing Mr. Roger Bertrand, Member for Portneuf and chairman of the Committee on Institutions, and Mrs. Rita Dionne-Marsolais, Member for Rosemont and chairman of the Committee on Public Finance, as members of the Standing Subcommittee on Parliamentary Reform;  
(Sessional Paper No. 550-20011018)

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A copy of a letter dated 13 September 2001 that he had received from Mr. Jean J. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, appointing Mrs. Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, Member for Saint-François and chairman of the Committee on Social Affairs, as a member of the Standing Subcommittee on Parliamentary Reform.

(Sessional Paper No. 551-20011018)

On motion by Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, these changes to the membership of the Standing Subcommittee on Parliamentary Reform were concurred in.

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Deferred Divisions**

The question was first put on on the amendment proposed by Mrs. Charest (Rimouski) to the motion moved by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of 17 October 2001. This amendment reads as follows:

THAT the motion under debate be amended as follows:

1. By substituting for the words "demand that", in the first line, the word "ask" and by inserting after the word "government", in the second line, the word "to";
2. By striking out the words "Parti Québécois" in the first and second lines;
3. By substituting for the words "act immediately", in the second line, the words "continue its struggle";
4. By striking out the words "to the cost of living annually", in the third and fourth lines;

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5. By substituting for the word "recognizing", in the fourth line, the word "evaluating";
6. By substituting for the words "the base-level benefit of", in the fourth line, the words "the threshold of needs essential for" and by substituting for the word "program", in the fifth line, the word "aid";
7. By substituting for the words "as a minimum support level, and by re-establishing no-cost", in the fifth and sixth lines, the words "and by progressively reducing the cost of".

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 55 in Appendix)

Yeas: **52**   Nays: **37**   Abstentions: **0**

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The question was then put on the motion by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion), as previously amended. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the government to continue its struggle to counteract poverty, in particular by indexing last-resort assistance, by evaluating the threshold of needs essential for last-resort aid, and by progressively reducing the cost of medication for all recipients of social welfare as well as for senior citizens receiving the income supplement.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 56 in Appendix)

Yeas: **53**   Nays: **37**   Abstentions: **0**

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**Motions Without Notice**

Mr. MacMillan (Papineau) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec offer its sympathies to the family of Mr. Bernard Lalonde from the Press Gallery, who passed away on 16 August last at the age of forty-two.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Beaudoin, Minister of State for International Relations, moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec mark the opening of the Québec days of international solidarity, which are being observed this year from 18 to 28 October, and take this opportunity to salute the exemplary commitment of Mr. Paul Gérin-Lajoie, the founding president of the foundation that bears his name, to whom UNESCO recently awarded the Roi-Sejong prize for the promotion of literacy for the Alfatibonit project in Haiti.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Lemieux, Minister of State for Culture and Communications, moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec underscore the importance of Public Libraries Week, which is being observed from 14 to 20 October 2001.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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Mrs. Jérôme-Forget (Marguerite-Bourgeoys) moved a motion proposing that the Committee on Public Finance hear the Minister of Finance; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) moved a motion concerning the fight against poverty; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mrs. Gauthier (Jonquière) moved a motion concerning the fight against poverty; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mrs. Rochefort (Mercier) moved a motion concerning the fight against poverty; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mrs. Boulet (Laviolette) moved a motion concerning the fight against poverty; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) moved:

THAT Mrs. Julie Boulet, Member for the Electoral District of Laviolette, be substituted for Mrs. Nicole Loiselle,

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Member for the Electoral District of Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne,  
as a permanent member of the Committee on Social Affairs.

This motion was carried.

Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) moved:

THAT Mrs. Françoise Gauthier, Member for the  
Electoral District of Jonquière, be appointed a permanent  
member of the Committee on Culture.

This motion was carried.

#### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Public Administration will hold a deliberative meeting to prepare its examination of the financial commitments of the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration, the Ministère du Travail, and the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale;
- the Committee on Public Administration will also meet to consider the financial commitments of the Ministère du Travail contained in the lists for the months of April 1997 to March 2001;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy will meet to hear the Minister of Natural Resources regarding the price of gasoline and its effects on the economy of Québec.

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### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 308, the debate between Mrs. Beauchamp (Sauvé) and Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, about the the purchase of a work of art by Loto Québec in the United States at a cost of \$1.8 million, which was to take place upon the adjournment of the present sitting, shall be deferred to the sitting of Wednesday, 24 October 2001.

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, then informed the Assembly that on Friday, 26 October 2001, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) would question Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, during an interpellation on "The housing crisis."

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### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

#### **Government Bills**

##### *Passage in Principle*

Mr. Julien, Minister of Revenue, moved, —That Bill 34, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec sales tax and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 34 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, Bill 34 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

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Mr. Julien, Minister of Revenue, moved, —That Bill 14, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu and other legislative provisions as regards the protection of confidential information, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

At 6.00 o'clock p.m. the debate was adjourned.

### **Debates Upon Adjournment**

The Assembly held the debate upon adjournment previously announced on a question by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) to Mr. Rochon, Minister of State for Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, about the establishment of a special expanded committee on the fight against poverty.

Then, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 309, the debate between Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) and Mr. Legault, Minister of Education, about the condition of the facilities of the Île-des-Sœurs primary school was deferred to the sitting of Tuesday, 13 October 2001.

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At 6.27 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Tuesday, 23 October 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, to  
ajourn the debate on the passage in principle of Bill 122:

(Division No. 54)

YEAS - 79

Barbeau	Carrier-Perreault	Gauvin	Marsan
Beauchamp	Chagnon	Gendron	Middlemiss
Beaudoin	Charest	Geoffrion	Morin
Beaumier	<i>(Sherbrooke)</i>	Gobé	Mulcair
Béchar	Charest	Houda-Pepin	Normandeau
Bédard	<i>(Rimouski)</i>	Jérôme-Forget	Ouimet
Bégin	Chevrette	Julien	Pagé
Bélanger	Copeman	Kelley	Papineau
Benoit	Côté	Labbé	Paquin
Bergman	<i>(Dubuc)</i>	Lachance	Paré
Bertrand	Côté	Lafrenière	Pelletier
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	<i>(La Peltrie)</i>	Lamquin-Éthier	<i>(Chapleau)</i>
Bertrand	Cousineau	Laprise	Poulin
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Delisle	Leduc	Rioux
Blanchet	Deslières	Legendre	Rocheffort
Bordeleau	Dionne-Marsolais	Lelièvre	Simard
Boucher	Doyer	Lemieux	<i>(Richelieu)</i>
Boulerice	Duguay	Létourneau	Sirros
Boulet	Fournier	Loiselle	Tranchemontagne
Boulianne	Gagnon-Tremblay	MacMillan	Vallières
Brassard	Gauthier	Maltais	Williams
Brodeur	Gautrin	Marcoux	

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On the amendment moved by Mrs. Charest (Rimouski) to the motion by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) under Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition:

**(Division No. 55)**

**YEAS - 52**

Barbeau	Brassard	Duguay	Létourneau
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Facal	Maltais
<i>(Arthabaska)</i>	Charest	Gendron	Ménard
Beaudoin	<i>(Rimouski)</i>	Geoffrion	Morin
Beaumier	Chevrette	Goupil	Pagé
Bédard	Cliche	Julien	Papineau
Bégin	Côté	Jutras	Paquin
Bertrand	<i>(La Peltrie)</i>	Labbé	Paré
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Côté	Lachance	Rioux
Bertrand	<i>(Dubuc)</i>	Laprise	Rochon
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Cousineau	Leduc	Simard
Blanchet	Désilets	Legault	<i>(Montmorency)</i>
Boucher	Deslières	Legendre	Simard
Boulerice	Dionne-Marsolais	Lelièvre	<i>(Richelieu)</i>
Boulianne	Doyer	Lemieux	Trudel

**NAYS - 37**

Beauchamp	Després	Leblanc	Poulin
Béchar	Fournier	Loiselle	Rochefort
Bélanger	Gagnon-Tremblay	MacMillan	Sirros
Bergman	Gauthier	Marcoux	Tranchemontagne
Bordeleau	Gautrin	Marsan	Vallières
Boulet	Gauvin	Middlemiss	Williams
Chagnon	Gobé	Mulcair	
Charest	Houda-Pepin	Normandeau	
<i>(Sherbrooke)</i>	Jérôme-Forget	Ouimet	
Copeman	Kelley	Pelletier	
Delisle	Lamquin-Éthier	<i>(Chapleau)</i>	

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On the motion moved by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion), as amended:

**(Division No. 56)**

**YEAS - 53**

Barbeau	Brassard	Facal	Ménard
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Gendron	Morin
( <i>Arthabaska</i> )	Charest	Geoffrion	Pagé
Beaudoin	( <i>Rimouski</i> )	Goupil	Papineau
Beaumier	Chevrette	Julien	Paquin
Bédard	Cliche	Jutras	Paré
Bégin	Côté	Labbé	Rioux
Bergeron	( <i>La Peltrie</i> )	Lachance	Rochon
Bertrand	Côté	Laprise	Simard
( <i>Portneuf</i> )	( <i>Dubuc</i> )	Leduc	( <i>Montmorency</i> )
Bertrand	Cousineau	Legault	Simard
( <i>Charlevoix</i> )	Désilets	Legendre	( <i>Richelieu</i> )
Blanchet	Deslières	Lelièvre	Trudel
Boucher	Dionne-Marsolais	Lemieux	
Boulerice	Doyer	Létourneau	
Boulianne	Duguay	Maltais	

**NAYS - 37**

Beauchamp	Després	Leblanc	Poulin
Béchar	Fournier	Loiselle	Rocheffort
Bélanger	Gagnon-Tremblay	MacMillan	Sirros
Bergman	Gauthier	Marcoux	Tranchemontagne
Bordeleau	Gautrin	Marsan	Vallières
Boulet	Gauvin	Middlemiss	Williams
Chagnon	Gobé	Mulcair	
Charest	Houda-Pepin	Normandeau	
( <i>Sherbrooke</i> )	Jérôme-Forget	Ouimet	
Copeman	Kelley	Pelletier	
Delisle	Lamquin-Éthier	( <i>Chapleau</i> )	