



*Votes and Proceedings*  
*Friday, 15 June 2001 - No. 39*

*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.*

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

The Assembly was called to order at 10.07 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Introduction of Bills**

Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

37      An Act to amend the Automobile Insurance Act.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

26      An Act to amend the Act respecting the Régie du logement and the Civil Code.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Brassard, Minister responsible for Parliamentary Reform, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

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- 39      An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning the immunity of the Persons designated by the National Assembly as regards compellability as witnesses.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Legault, Minister of State for Education and Youth, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 35      An Act to amend the Education Act.

The motion was carried.

### **Presenting Papers**

Mrs. Marois, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Inspector General of Financial Institutions regarding insurance, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 349-20010615)

The annual report of the Inspector General of Financial Institutions regarding savings and credit unions, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 350-20010615)

The annual report of the Inspector General of Financial Institutions regarding trust and savings companies, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 351-20010615)

The Strategic Plan, 2001-2004, of the Ministère des Finances.

(Sessional Paper No. 352-20010615)

The second report from the Ministère des Finances on the application of the *Act respecting insurance*.

(Sessional Paper No. 353-20010615)

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The annual report of the Fonds d'indemnisation du courtage immobilier for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 354-20010615)

The annual report of the Association des courtiers et agents immobiliers du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 355-20010615)

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Mr. Simard, Minister of State for Administration and the Public Service, Chair of the Conseil du Trésor, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société immobilière du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 356-20010615)

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Mr. Trudel, Minister of State for Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 357-20010615)

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Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. G. Baril, Minister of State for Regions, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société Innovatech du sud du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 358-20010615)

The annual report of the Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 359-20010615)

The annual report of the Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 360-20010615)

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Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Fonds d'aide aux recours collectifs, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 361-20010615)

The annual report of the Ordre professionnel des technologistes médicaux du Québec, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 362-20010615)

The annual report of the Ordre des dentistes du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 363-20010615)

The annual report of the Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail concerning the application of the *Crime Victims Compensation Act* and the *Act to promote good citizenship*, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 364-20010615)

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Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mr. Boisclair, Minister of the Environment, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001.

(Sessional Paper No. 365-20010615)

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Mr. President tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse, for the fiscal year ended 31 December 2000.

(Sessional Paper No. 366-20010615)

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Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, tabled the following:

The file on the electoral district boundaries of the new Québec City.  
(Sessional Paper No. 367-20010615)

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Mr. Kieffer (Groulx), president of the National Assembly delegation for relations with the United States, tabled the following:

The report on the activities of the National Assembly delegation for relations with the United States, for 2000-2001.  
(Sessional Paper No. 368-20010615)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

Mr. Rioux (Matane), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which, on 14 June 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

- 8     An Act to amend the Act respecting Société Innovatech Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches — Reported without amendment.  
(Sessional Paper No. 369-20010615)

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which, on 13 and 14 June 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

- 33    An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie — Reported with certain amendments.  
(Sessional Paper No. 370-20010615)
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Mr. Bertrand (Charlevoix), chairman, tabled the following:

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A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 14 June 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

- 20 An Act to amend the Act respecting the legal publicity of sole proprietorships, partnerships and legal persons — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 371-20010615)

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 14 June 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

- 194 An Act constituting Capital régional et coopératif Desjardins — Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 372-20010615)

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 22, 23, 24, 25 May and 6, 7, 13 and 14 June 2001, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

- 159 An Act respecting the Pension Plan of Management Personnel — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 373-20010615)

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the eligibility criteria in order to receive the Distinguished Services Award in the correctional sector, and signed by 188 citizens of Québec who work at the Montréal Detention Centre.

(Sessional Paper No. 374-20010615)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Williams (Nelligan) tabled the following:

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The abstract of a petition respecting the programme for the payment of hearing aid repairs for deaf and hearing impaired persons, and signed by 3283 citizens of the Province of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 375-20010615)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Houda-Pepin (La Pinière) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the legal framework of the apartment rental procedure, and signed by 10,939 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 376-20010615)

### **Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations**

Mr. President rendered his decision regarding the request to rise on a point of privilege notified by Mr. Gobé (LaFontaine) and which stems from the events that allegedly took place at the sitting of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment held on Wednesday, 13 June 2001, at approximately 3.00 o'clock p.m.

According to the Member for LaFontaine, an officer of the National Assembly allegedly bullied him in order to prevent him from meeting and having a discussion with a citizen who wished to give him his opinion concerning the bill being considered in committee, which is contrary to paragraph 7 of section 55 of the *Act respecting the National Assembly*. The Member for LaFontaine holds the President of the Assembly responsible for this event since he is responsible for the security of persons and property at the National Assembly.

At yesterday's sitting, this request from the Member for LaFontaine had been taken under advisement by Mr. President.

### **RULING FROM THE CHAIR**

The request from the Member for La Fontaine is not receivable.



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The conduct of a Member representing the Chair cannot be questioned without having recourse to a substantive motion. If a motion was moved questioning the conduct of the President in relation to an act accomplished by a person under his authority, it would be the Assembly's duty, following a debate on this matter, to determine whether or not the President can be held accountable. In this case, if the Member for LaFontaine had wanted to raise a point of privilege regarding the officer involved, he would have had to have raised a point of privilege in direct relation to this person.

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) tabled the following:

Copy of a document entitled "Letter ouverte d'un groupe de chercheurs et de médecins concernés : cessons l'épandage abusif de pesticides à des fins 'utilitaires', and signed by twenty-four physicians and scientists.

(Sessional Paper No. 377-20010615)

The text of a draft amendment to section 1 of Bill 15, An Act to amend the Public Health Protection Act and the Animal Health Protection Act.

(Sessional Paper No. 378-20010615)

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Benoit (Orford) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark World Day to  
Combat Desertification and Drought, which will be held on  
17 June.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

**Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Culture, to conclude its special consultations on 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;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 13, An Act to amend the Act respecting off-highway vehicles;
- the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 19, An Act concerning the organization of police services;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 31, An Act to amend the Labour Code, to establish the Commission des relations du travail and to amend other legislative provisions;
- the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 15, An Act to amend the Public Health Protection Act and the Animal Health Protection Act;

And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside section 40 of the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings:

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to hear the interested parties and give clause-by-clause consideration to Private Bill 202, An Act respecting certain immovables of the cadastre of the township of Métabetchouan.

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Mr. President gave the following notice:

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- the Committee on the National Assembly shall meet for the purpose of examining certain amendments to the election regulations, pursuant to section 550 of the *Election Act*.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Williams (Nelligan) moved a motion concerning the resources available for persons suffering from a hearing impairment; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

At 11.29 o'clock a.m., Mr. President suspended the proceedings.

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The sitting resumed at 11.50 o'clock a.m.

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### **Business Having Precedence**

*Motions relative to breaches of privilege or contempt*

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, on behalf of Mrs. Vermette (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT pursuant to National Assembly Standing Orders 315 to 321 the National Assembly rule on the conduct of the Member for Brome-Missisquoi with respect to two (2) incidents:

Firstly: During the course of the debates that took place at the National Assembly on the evening of June 8, 2001, the Member for Brome-Missisquoi referred to the Second Vice-President of the National Assembly and Member for Saint-Maurice on five (5) occasions as a liar, refused to comply with his order of expulsion, and in so doing compelled the Second Vice-President to adjourn the proceedings of the National Assembly. Through his words and actions the Member for Brome-Missisquoi has caused an affront to our institution and has deprived parliamentarians of their right to engage in debates on bills, in violation of the provisions of subsections 55(5) and 55(6) of the *Act respecting the National Assembly* (R.S.Q., c. A-23.1).

"Section 55. No person may breach the privileges of the Assembly. The following acts, in particular, constitute breaches of the privileges of the Assembly:

- (5) creating a disturbance liable to disrupt the course of parliamentary proceedings;
- (6) using or threatening to use force or using undue pressure to have a sitting cancelled or suspended."

Secondly: Notwithstanding the statement made by the President of the National Assembly during the Routine Proceedings on the morning of June 12, 2001, in which he declared, in particular, that one may not cast reflections upon the conduct, the deeds, or the impartiality of the President except by means of a substantive motion, the journalists of the press gallery received, after the President made this statement, a letter signed by the Member for Brome-Missisquoi and addressed to the President of the National Assembly in which that Member casts reflections upon the impartiality, the dignity, the good sense, and the competence of the Second Vice-President of the National Assembly. In this letter the Member for Brome-Missisquoi «...denounces the abuse of power committed by the Second Vice-President...» and in so doing casts reflections upon his conduct.

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THAT, accordingly, the National Assembly rule upon the misdeeds of which the Member for Brome-Missisquoi is hereby accused in voting on the report from the Committee on the National Assembly, which shall previously have inquired into the matter without special reference.

And debate arising;

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 188, Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved that the motion under discussion be withdrawn.

The motion to withdraw was carried.

At 12.03 o'clock p.m., Mr. President suspended the proceedings.

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The sitting resumed at 12.05 o'clock p.m.

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## **Government Bills**

### *Passage in Principle*

Mr. Trudel, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved, —That Bill 28, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

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At 1.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 3.06 o'clock p.m.

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And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Trudel, Minister of Health and Social Services, —That Bill 28, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle;

And debate arising;

At the end of his address, Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) moved the following hoist motion:

THAT the motion under debate be amended by striking out the word "now" and by adding at the end thereof the words "this day six months hence".

The hoist motion was negatived.

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, the debate on the motion by Mr. Trudel, Minister of Health and Social Services, for the passage in principle of Bill 28 was adjourned.

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At 3.38 o'clock p.m., on motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned until Tuesday, 19 June 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*