



Votes and Proceedings
Thursday, 31 May 2001 - No. 30

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

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 10.07 o'clock a.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mr. President tabled the following:

A document entitled "Travaux de la Commission permanente de révision — rapport au 31 March 2001" (Work of the permanent board of revisors — report as at 31 March 2001) he had received from Mr. Marcel Blanchet, Chief Electoral Officer and chairman of the Commission de la représentation électorale du Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 295-20010531)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay (Saint-François), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Social Affairs, which met on 30 May 2001 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

165 An Act to amend the Act respecting the terms of the directors of certain public health and social service institutions — Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 296-20010531)

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Mr. Lachance (Bellechasse), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which met on 30 May 2001 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 21 An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code — Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 297-20010531)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Gagnon-Tremblay (Saint-François) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the price of gasoline and the taxes thereon, and signed by 953 petitioners from several Québec regions and, more particularly, from the Eastern Townships.

(Sessional Paper No. 298-20010531)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President informed the Assembly that he had received, within the prescribed time, a notice from Mr. Gobé (LaFontaine) indicating his intention to rise on a matter of privilege regarding comments addressed to him by Mr. Chevrette (Joliette).

Mr. President rendered the following decision regarding this request:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The comments adduced by the Member for LaFontaine concern a private conversation between Members since they were not pronounced within the framework of parliamentary proceedings.

The concept of threat and defamation stipulated in paragraph (8) of section 55 of the *Act respecting the National Assembly* concerns necessarily the parliamentary framework. Thus, unless threats or abusive language impede the carrying out of the duties of a Member or of the Assembly, it is not expedient for the Chair to intervene.

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In short, the distinction must be made between threats and abusive words addressed to a Member and private conversations that sometimes stem from aggressive parliamentary exchanges.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, tabled the following:

Copy of a letter, dated 18 May 2001, sent by the chairmen of the medical, dental and pharmacy boards of five university hospital centres of Québec to Mr. Rémy Trudel, Minister of State for Health and Social Services, concerning Bill 28, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and other legislative provisions.

(Sessional Paper No. 299-20010531)

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred at the sitting of Wednesday, 30 May 2001, on the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Finance, for the passage in principle of Bill 11, An Act to establish a budgetary surplus reserve fund.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 30 in Appendix)

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

Accordingly, Bill 11 was passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, Bill 11 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Charest, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved:

THAT the National Assembly express its deepest sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of Mr. Maxwell Cummings, who passed away last 23 May, and mark particularly the commitment and important contribution of Mr. Cummings to the advancement and well-being of his community and of society.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, the Assembly immediately took Notices of Proceedings in Committees.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Social Affairs, to hold special consultations on Bill 28, An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and other legislative provisions.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Cousineau (Bertrand) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark World No-Tobacco Day, held today on the initiative of the World Health Organization.

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

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84, Mr. Cousineau (Bertrand) moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec mark the fifth Québec Week of the Disabled, which will be held from 1 to 7 June, and whose theme is "Ensemble... Tout le monde y gagne" (Together... Everyone's a winner).

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

Mrs. Carrier-Perreault, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committees:

- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 5, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Régie de l'énergie, and to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 161, An Act to establish a legal framework for information technology;
- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 173, Civil Protection Act;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to hold special consultations on Bill 24, An Act respecting public transit authorities.

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Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, gave the following notice:

- the Committee on Culture shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing its final report on media concentration.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage

Mrs. Lemieux, Minister of Culture and Communications, moved the passage of Bill 160, An Act respecting the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and amending various legislative provisions.

And debate arising;

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 3.03 o'clock p.m.

Passage

And debate continuing on the motion by Mrs. Lemieux, Minister of Culture and Communications, for the passage of Bill 160, An Act respecting the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and amending various legislative provisions;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 160 was passed.

Passage in Principle

Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Transport, moved, —That Bill 7, An Act to amend the Act respecting roads, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 8.08 o'clock p.m.

On the motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, the debate on the passage in principle of Bill 7, An Act to amend the Act respecting roads, was adjourned.

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Resuming the debate, which had been adjourned on Friday, 25 May 2001, on the motion by Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, —That Bill 29, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs, do now pass in principle;

Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun) moved the adjournment of the debate.

After debate thereon, the motion for the adjournment of the debate was carried.

At 11.15 o'clock p.m., on motion by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned until Friday, 1 June 2001, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Finance, for the passage in principle of Bill 11, An Act to establish a budgetary surplus reserve fund:

(Division No. 30)

YEAS - 52

Arseneau	Chevrette	Jutras	Payne
Baril	Cliche	Kieffer	Pelletier
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Côté	Labbé	(<i>Abitibi-Est</i>)
Beaudoin	(<i>La Peltrie</i>)	Lachance	Robert
Beumier	Cousineau	Landry	Rochon
Bédard	Désilets	Laprise	Signori
Bégin	Deslières	Leduc	Simard
Bergeron	Dion	Léger	(<i>Montmorency</i>)
Blanchet	Doyer	Lelièvre	Simard
Boisclair	Gagnon	Lemieux	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Boulerice	Gendron	Maltais	Trudel
Boulianne	Geoffrion	Marois	Vermette
Brassard	Goupil	Ménard	
Caron	Harel	Paquin	
Carrier-Perreault	Julien	Paré	

NAYS - 37

Beauchamp	Després	Loiselle	Tranchemontagne
Béchar	Dupuis	MacMillan	Whissell
Bélanger	Fournier	Marcoux	Williams
Benoit	Gagnon-Tremblay	Marsan	
Bergman	Gautrin	Middlemiss	
Brodeur	Gobé	Mulcair	
Chagnon	Houda-Pepin	Ouimet	
Charest	Jérôme-Forget	Paradis	
(<i>Sherbrooke</i>)	Kelley	Pelletier	
Cholette	Lamoureux	(<i>Chapleau</i>)	
Copeman	Lamquin-Éthier	Poulin	
Delisle	Laporte	Sirros	

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