



Votes and Proceedings
Wednesday, 22 November 2000 - No. 141

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 10.00 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) moved:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government of Québec to pass a framework act on the elimination of poverty based on the intent, principles and objectives of the proposal set forth by the collective for the elimination of poverty.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: ten minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and five minutes shall be set aside for the independent Member; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group may be added to that of the other group while any time not used by the independent Member shall be redistributed amongst the parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion);

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Social Solidarity, tabled the following:

A table concerning the financing of social programmes.

(Sessional Paper No. 1535-20001122)

At the end of his speech, Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Social Solidarity, moved:

THAT the motion by the Member for Laurier-Dorion be amended:

- 1° by replacing the words "pass a framework act on the elimination of" by the words "adopt a strategy for the fight against";

- 2° by replacing the words "based on the intent," by the words "by taking into consideration certain";
- 3° by removing the words "and objectives".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government of Québec to adopt a strategy for the fight against poverty by taking into consideration certain principles of the proposal set forth by the collective for the elimination of poverty.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on the main motion by Mr. Sirros and on the amendment by Mr. Boisclair, subject to the latter being ruled in order, which Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, took under advisement.

Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, then rendered the following decision on the receivability of the amendment by Mr. Boisclair:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The motion to amend is receivable. The measure proposed in the amendment motion does not repudiate, alter or contradict the measure proposed in the main motion, since the adoption of a strategy to fight poverty does not exclude the possibility of introducing an act aiming to eliminate poverty.

Furthermore, by replacing the words "based on the intent," by the words "by taking into consideration certain" and by removing the words "and objectives", the amendment motion moderates the main motion, but without repudiating, altering, or contradicting it.

And debate continuing;

During his reply, Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) moved:

THAT the amendment be subamended as follows:

- 1° by adding, after the word "poverty" in the second line, the words "including a framework bill";
- 2° by replacing the words "by taking into consideration certain principles of the proposal by the words "on the basis of the intent, principles and objectives of the proposal".

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The motion, as amended and subamended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask the Government of Québec to adopt a strategy for the fight against poverty, including a framework bill, on the basis of the intent, principles and objectives of the proposal set forth by the collective for the elimination of poverty.

Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, rendered the following decision on the receivability of the subamendment by Mr. Sirros:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The motion to subamend is not receivable. The Member who exercises a right of reply must reply solely to the speeches made by the Members who preceded him; he may not add new facts or arguments to support the proposal under discussion. Consequently, he may not introduce a motion, since no debate could be held thereon.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on the amendment by Mr. Boisclair; recorded divisions were thereupon demanded on this amendment and on the main motion.

At the request of Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, the divisions were deferred until Routine Proceedings on the present sitting day.

At 12.07 o'clock p.m., Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Papers

Mrs. Maltais, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

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A notice of classification from the Commission des biens culturels, under section 29 of the *Cultural Property Act*, concerning the remains of the old Beauharnois Saint-Timothée canal.

(Sessional Paper No. 1536-20001122)

—————

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

Two hundred thousand signatures of citizens from various Québec municipalities, signatures that were entered in several municipal registers or in other documents, concerning the holding of a referendum on the municipal amalgamations project.

(Sessional Paper No. 1537-20001122)

Presenting Reports from Committees

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

A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which met on 21 November 2000 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 152 An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife and the Act respecting hunting and fishing rights in the James Bay and New Québec territories — Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 1538-20001122)

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 63 and 64, the abstracts of three petitions respecting an act on the elimination of poverty were laid upon the Table:

- the first, being the abstract of a petition signed by 71,773 citizens of Québec, by Mrs. Barbeau (Vanier);

(Sessional Paper No. 1539-20001122)

- the second, being the abstract of a petition signed by 71,772 citizens of Québec, by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion);

(Sessional Paper No. 1540-20001122)

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- the third, being the abstract of a petition signed by 71,772 citizens of Québec, by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup).
(Sessional Paper No. 1541-20001122)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the divisions, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition earlier in today's sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) and on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Social Solidarity.

First, the question was put on the amendment moved by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Social Solidarity. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the motion under discussion be amended:

- 1° by replacing the words "pass a framework act on the elimination of" by the words "adopt a strategy for the fight against";
- 2° by replacing the words "based on the intent," by the words "by taking into consideration certain";
- 3° by removing the words "and objectives".

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 111 in Appendix)

Yeas: **67** Nays: **42** Abstentions: **0**

The question was then put on the motion, as amended by the preceding vote. This motion reads as follows:

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THAT the National Assembly ask the Government of Québec to adopt a strategy for the fight against poverty by taking into consideration certain principles of the proposal set forth by the collective for the elimination of poverty.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 112 in Appendix)

Yeas: **69** Nays: **42** Abstentions: **0**

Motions Without Notice

Pursuant to Standing Order 129, Mrs. Caron, Chief Government Whip, moved:

THAT Mrs. Solange Charest, Member for Rimouski, replace Mr. Claude Boucher, Member for Johnson, as member of the Committee on Public Administration.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT the order to refer Private Bill 236, An Act to amend the Act respecting Beloeil Golf Club, for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain be rescinded.

The motion was carried.

THAT Private Bill 236, An Act to amend the Act respecting Beloeil Golf Club, be referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance;

The Minister of State for the Economy and Finance shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

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THAT the order to refer Private Bill 239, An Act respecting the Régie d'assainissement des eaux usées de Boischatel, L'Ange-Gardien, Château-Richer, for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment be rescinded.

The motion was carried.

THAT Private Bill 239, An Act respecting the Régie d'assainissement des eaux usées de Boischatel, L'Ange-Gardien, Château-Richer, be referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain;

The Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal shall be a member of the said Committee during its proceedings with respect to this order of reference.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Després (Limoilou) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Middlemiss (Pontiac) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

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Mr. Williams (Nelligan) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Bergman (D'Arcy-McGee) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Bordeleau (Acadie) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Tranchemontagne (Mont-Royal) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) moved a motion concerning the special consultations on Bill 170, An Act to reform the municipal territorial organization of the metropolitan regions of Montréal, Québec and the Outaouais; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 115, An Act to amend the Civil Code and other legislative provisions relating to land registration;
- the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 144, An Act respecting La Financière agricole du Québec;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 150, An Act to again amend various legislative provisions respecting municipal affairs;
- the Committee on Education, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 146, An Act to amend the Act respecting school elections and the Election Act.

Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, rendered the following ruling concerning the request for a directive made at the sitting of 21 November 2000 by Mr. Brassard, Government House Leader, with regard to the effect of the *sub judice* rule on the interpellation scheduled to be held on Friday, 24 November 2000, on "the mandate given to the Laval police concerning the inquiry on the collapse of the overpass on Highway 15".

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

Since the collapse of the overpass on Highway 15 is being investigated by the coroner's office, the Chair asks the Members, during this interpellation, to be prudent when speaking in order to avoid being prejudicial to anyone. Also, it shall be the committee chairman's responsibility to ensure that the *sub judice* rule is respected.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Institutions on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 139, Notaries Act, together with the amendments handed in by Mrs. Goupil, Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions.

The amendments were declared receivable.

The amendments were carried.

The report, as amended, was concurred in.

Passage in Principle

Resuming the debate on the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Child and Family Welfare, —That Bill 140, An Act respecting parental insurance, do now pass in principle;

—————
Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, informed the Assembly that he had received two requests for debates upon adjournment to be held on Thursday, 23 November 2000:

- the first, on a question by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) to Mrs. Marois, Minister of Health and Social Services, about the lack of resources in the CLSCs and CHSLDs;
- the second, on a question by Mrs. Normandeau (Bonaventure) to Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Transport, about regional air transportation.

—————
And debate continuing on the motion for the passage in principle of Bill 140;

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The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 140 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Boulerice, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 140 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

Mr. Cliche, Minister for the Information Highway and Government Services, moved, —That Bill 161, An Act to establish a legal framework for information technology, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

On motion by Mr. Dupuis (Saint-Laurent), the debate was adjourned.

At 5.49 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 23 November 2000, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the amendment by Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Social Solidarity, to the motion by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) moved during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition:

(Division No. 111)

YEAS - 67

Arseneau	Boulianne	Gagnon	Marois
Barbeau	Brassard	Gendron	Ménard
Baril	Caron	Geoffrion	Morin
(Berthier)	Carrier-Perreault	Goupil	Paquin
Baril	Charest	Harel	Paré
(Arthabaska)	(Rimouski)	Jolivet	Payne
Beaudoin	Chevrette	Julien	Pelletier
Beaulne	Cliche	Jutras	(Abitibi-Est)
Beaumier	Côté	Kieffer	Rioux
Bédard	(Dubuc)	Labbé	Rochon
Bergeron	Côté	Lachance	Signori
Bertrand	(La Peltrie)	Landry	Simard
(Portneuf)	Cousineau	Laprise	(Richelieu)
Bertrand	Désilets	Legault	Simard
(Charlevoix)	Deslières	Léger	(Montmorency)
Blanchet	Dion	Lelièvre	Trudel
Boisclair	Dionne-Marsolais	Lemieux	Vermette
Bouchard	Doyer	Léonard	
Boucher	Duguay	Létourneau	
Boulerice	Facal	Maltais	

NAYS - 42

Beauchamp	Delisle	Kelley	Normandeau
Béchar	Després	Lafrenière	Ouimet
Bélangier	Dumont	Lamoureux	Paradis
Benoit	Dupuis	Lamquin-Éthier	Poulin
Bergman	Fournier	Leblanc	Sirros
Bordeleau	Gagnon-Tremblay	Maciocia	Tranchemontagne
Brodeur	Gautrin	MacMillan	Vallières
Chagnon	Gauvin	Marcoux	Whissell
Chenail	Gobé	Marsan	Williams
Cholette	Houda-Pepin	Middlemiss	
Copeman	Jérôme-Forget	Mulcair	

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On the motion as amended by the preceding vote:

(Division No. 112)

YEAS - 69

Arseneau	Boulianne	Facal	Maltais
Barbeau	Brassard	Gagnon	Marois
Baril	Brouillet	Gendron	Ménard
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Caron	Geoffrion	Morin
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Goupil	Paquin
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Charest	Harel	Paré
Beaudoin	(<i>Rimouski</i>)	Jolivet	Payne
Beaulne	Chevrette	Julien	Pelletier
Beaumier	Cliche	Jutras	(<i>Abitibi-Est</i>)
Bédard	Côté	Kieffer	Pinard
Bergeron	(<i>Dubuc</i>)	Labbé	Rioux
Bertrand	Côté	Lachance	Rochon
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	(<i>La Peltrie</i>)	Landry	Signori
Bertrand	Cousineau	Laprise	Simard
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Désilets	Legault	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Blanchet	Deslières	Léger	Simard
Boisclair	Dion	Lelièvre	(<i>Montmorency</i>)
Bouchard	Dionne-Marsolais	Lemieux	Trudel
Boucher	Doyer	Léonard	Vermette
Boulerice	Duguay	Létourneau	

NAYS - 42

Beauchamp	Delisle	Kelley	Normandeau
Béchar	Després	Lafrenière	Ouimet
Bélanger	Dumont	Lamoureux	Paradis
Benoit	Dupuis	Lamquin-Éthier	Poulin
Bergman	Fournier	Leblanc	Sirros
Bordeleau	Gagnon-Tremblay	Maciocia	Tranchemontagne
Brodeur	Gautrin	MacMillan	Vallières
Chagnon	Gauvin	Marcoux	Whissell
Chenail	Gobé	Marsan	Williams
Cholette	Houda-Pepin	Middlemiss	
Copeman	Jérôme-Forget	Mulcair	