



*Votes and Proceedings*  
*Wednesday, 7 June 2000 - No. 118*

*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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Moment of reflection

### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

#### Presenting Papers

Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, tabled the following:

The activity report of the Fonds d'indemnisation du courtage immobilier for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 1182-20000607)

The annual report of the Association des courtiers et agents immobiliers du Québec (ACAIQ) for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1999.

(Sessional Paper No. 1183-20000607)

#### Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Simard (Richelieu), chairman, tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 6 June 2000 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

125 An Act respecting Nasdaq Stock exchange activities in Québec —  
Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 1184-20000607)

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

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A report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, which, on 6 June 2000, held public hearings within the framework of special consultations on Bill 135, An Act to amend the Transport Act.

(Sessional Paper No. 1185-20000607)

### **Presenting Petitions**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 63 and 64, Mr. MacMillan (Papineau) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the gasoline taxes and signed by 819 citizens from the Haute-Mauricie region.

(Sessional Paper No. 1186-20000607)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 63 and 64, Mrs. Loiselle (Saint-Henri–Sainte-Anne) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the integration plan of the English Montreal School Board in relation to Vézina Alternative High School and St. Gabriel Elementary School, and signed by 530 members of the community and parents of students attending St. Gabriel Elementary School.

(Sessional Paper No. 1187-20000607)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Gagnon (Saguenay) moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark today, 7 June, Pure Air Day.

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.

Mr. Legault, Minister of State for Education and Youth, moved:

THAT the National Assembly congratulate the Québec students who distinguished themselves at the Québec Skills Competition and the Canadian Skills Competition held in Québec last weekend and, especially, the gold medallists who will be representing us next year in Seoul.

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

- the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 112, Fire Safety Act;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 110, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 135, An Act to amend the Transport Act;
- the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 116, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Régie de l'énergie and other legislative provisions;

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- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 126, An Act respecting financial services cooperatives.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Government Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

Resuming the debate on the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Health and Social Services, —That Bill 117, An Act to amend the Act respecting prescription drug insurance and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, do now pass in principle;

At the end of his address, Mr. MacMillan (Papineau) 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".

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At 12.56 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, convened a meeting with the House leaders in order to determine the allocation of speaking time for the limited debate on the hoist motion and suspended the proceedings until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 3.08 o'clock p.m.

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*Passage in Principle*

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

Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, then raised a point of order in which he asked which parliamentary group must speak first in the debate. Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, took the matter under advisement.

After a brief suspension of the sitting, Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, rendered the following decision:

**RULING FROM THE CHAIR**

Despite the fact that, in the past, the first speaker on a hoist motion has always been a Member of the parliamentary group different from that which proposed the motion, the Chair is not bound to this practice. Consequently, it shall recognize the first person to indicate his desire to speak to the motion.

The Assembly then entered upon the debate on the hoist motion moved by Mr. MacMillan.

At the request of Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, Mr. Gendron (Abitibi-Ouest) withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

**Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 53, Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

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- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 110, An Act to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs.

### **Government Bills**

#### *Passage in Principle*

And debate continuing on the hoist motion by Mr. MacMillan (Papineau);

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. 87 in Appendix)

Yeas: **39**   Nays: **63**   Abstentions: **0**

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At 6.06 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

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The proceedings resumed at 8.03 o'clock p.m.

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#### *Passage in Principle*

And debate continuing on the motion by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Health and Social Services, for the passage in principle of Bill 117, An Act to amend the Act respecting prescription drug insurance and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec;

At the end of his address, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, moved the following motion to divide the said Bill:

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THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 241, Bill 117, An Act to amend the Act respecting prescription drug insurance and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, be divided into two Bills, the first of which shall be entitled "An Act doubling the tax on prescription drugs and authorizing its annual increase by Government regulation", and shall comprise sections 1 to 3, 5 and 6, and the second of which shall be entitled "An Act promoting research and development in the pharmaceutical sector", and shall comprise sections 4 and 6.

At 8.46 o'clock p.m., after having heard arguments from both sides on the receivability of this motion, Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, took the matter under advisement and suspended the proceedings.

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At 9.56 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, rendered the following decision on the receivability of the motion to divide Bill 117, An Act to amend the Act respecting prescription drug insurance and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, moved by the Official Opposition House Leader:

#### RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The motion to divide is not receivable. Upon analysis of the provisions of Bill 117, I cannot find therein the two principles as proposed by the Official Opposition House Leader. In the opinion of the Chair, Bill 117 contains only one principle, the financing of the basic prescription drug insurance plan.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried on division and Bill 117 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Boisclair, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 117 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

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Resuming the debate on the motion by Mrs. Harel, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, —That Bill 134, An Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, do now pass in principle;

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At 12.00 o'clock a.m., the debate on the motion by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal was adjourned. Mr. Bissonnet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 8 June 2000, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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**ROYAL ASSENT**

On Wednesday, 7 June 2000, at 11.39 o'clock a.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mrs. Blanchet (Crémazie), the Delegate of the Premier, of Mrs. Delisle (Jean-Talon), the Delegate of the Leader of the Official Opposition, of Mr. Bédard, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, the Honourable Lise Thibault, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bill:

127 An Act to amend the Tourist Establishments Act.

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the hoist motion by Mr. MacMillan (Papineau) with regard to the passage in principle of Bill 117, An Act to amend the Act respecting prescription drug insurance and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec:

(Division No. 87)

YEAS - 39

Beauchamp	Copeman	Laporte	Paradis
Bélanger	Fournier	Leblanc	Pelletier
Benoit	Gagnon-Tremblay	Loiselle	(Chapleau)
Bergman	Gautrin	Maciocia	Poulin
Bordeleau	Gauvin	MacMillan	Sirros
Brodeur	Gobé	Marcoux	Tranchemontagne
Chagnon	Houda-Pepin	Marsan	Vallières
Charest	Jérôme-Forget	Middlemiss	Williams
(Sherbrooke)	Kelley	Mulcair	
Chenail	Lafrenière	Normandeau	
Cholette	Lamoureux	Ouimet	

NAYS - 63

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