

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 691

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec

Introduction

Introduced by Mr. Pierre Arcand Member for Mont-Royal-Outremont

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill amends the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports to confer on the Minister of Transport the responsibility for taking measures to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec in order to promote their social and economic development.

To that end, the bill provides that the Air Service Fund will be used to finance the maintenance of air transportation services on routes linking the cities of Montréal or Québec and the administrative regions of Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean and Côte-Nord, as well as any other region determined by regulation.

Under the bill, the Minister may grant financial assistance to an air carrier to cover its operating deficit relating to such routes for a period not exceeding five years. The financial assistance is granted to the air carrier selected following a call for projects that meets the conditions determined by regulation.

Lastly, the bill provides that this regulation must specify the minimum number of routes the carrier must serve per week, the minimum and maximum fares the carrier may charge per passenger and the carrier's obligation to provide the Minister, on a quarterly basis, with a statement of its revenues and expenditures and a statement of their correlation with its budgetary forecasts.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Act respecting the Ministère des Transports (chapter M-28).

Bill 691

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS TO MAINTAIN AIR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES IN CERTAIN REGIONS OF QUÉBEC

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DES TRANSPORTS

- **1.** Section 3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Transports (chapter M-28) is amended by inserting the following subparagraph after subparagraph b of the first paragraph:
- "(b.1) take measures to maintain air transportation services in certain regions of Québec in order to promote their social and economic development;".
- **2.** Section 12.30 of the Act is amended by adding the following subparagraph after subparagraph b of paragraph 2.1:
- "(c) the maintenance of air transportation services on routes linking the cities of Montréal or Québec and the administrative regions of Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean and Côte-Nord, as well as any other region determined by regulation."
- **3.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 12.30:
- **"12.30.1.** For the purposes of subparagraph c of paragraph 2.1 of section 12.30, the Minister may, out of the sums credited to the Fund, grant financial assistance to an air carrier to cover its operating deficit relating to such routes for a period not exceeding five years.

The financial assistance is granted to the air carrier selected following a call for projects that meets the conditions determined by regulation. In particular, the regulation must provide for

- (1) the minimum number of routes the carrier must serve per week;
- (2) the minimum and maximum fares the carrier may charge per passenger; and
- (3) the fact that the carrier undertakes to provide the Minister, on a quarterly basis, with a statement of its revenues and expenditures and a statement of their correlation with its budgetary forecasts."

4.	This Act comes into force on (insert the date of assent to this Act).