



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 3 December 2020 — No. 150

**President of the National Assembly:
Mr. François Paradis**

The Assembly was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Members

Ms. Hébert (Saint-François) made a statement to underline the holding of the 80th Sherbrooke firefighters' toy drive.

Ms. Maccarone (Westmount–Saint-Louis) made a statement to underline the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Mr. Roberge (Chambly) made a statement to underline the 20th anniversary of POSA/Source des Monts.

Ms. Robitaille (Bourassa-Sauvé) made a statement to applaud the efforts of the Béliers Solidaires collective.

Ms. IsaBelle (Huntingdon) made a statement to congratulate Mr. Alessandro Cassa on being selected to receive funding from CBC/Radio-Canada and the Canada Council for the Arts for his Web series.

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Ms. Ghazal (Mercier) made a statement to denounce the plan for the annexation of Palestinian territories by the State of Israel.

Mr. Julien (Charlesbourg) made a statement to underline the work of La Popote de Charlesbourg.

Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin) made a statement to support the request to set up a Centre d'aide et de lutte contre les agressions à caractère sexuel in Longueuil.

Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) made a statement to underline the success of Printemps numérique's MTL Connect digital event.

At 9:50 a.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, suspended the proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 10:02 a.m.

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Moment of reflection

Presenting Papers

The President tabled the following:

A letter, dated 1 December 2020, he had received from Mr. Richard Ferrand, President of the French National Assembly, in response to the motion on the murderous attack killing Samuel Paty on 16 October 2020, carried unanimously by the Assembly on 21 October 2020.

(Sessional Paper No. 2141-20201203)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines), Committee Chair, tabled the following:

The report from the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors, which held public hearings on 4, 5, 6 and 7 November 2019, and on 20, 21 and 23 January as well as on 24 August 2020 within the framework of special consultations on the sexual exploitation of minors. The report contains 58 recommendations.

(Sessional Paper No. 2142-20201203)

Presenting Petitions

Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition on promoting Black History Month and the Week Against Racism in Québec's educational institutions, signed by 603 citizens of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 2143-20201203)

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Oral Answers to Petitions

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

At the request of the President, Mr. Legault, Premier, withdrew certain words deemed unparliamentary.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Ms. Massé, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, tabled the following:

A copy of an email, dated 23 November 2020, addressed to Mr. Christian Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services, and to Mr. Jean Boulet, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, concerning the wearing of the N95 mask by all health care workers.

(Sessional Paper No. 2144-20201203)

Motions Without Notices

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 84.1 and 185, Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines), together with Ms. St-Pierre (Acadie), Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly take note of the tabling of the report of the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors and that it urge the Québec government to formally and solemnly declare that this is a national priority;

THAT it emphasize the work of those who are fully engaged in the fight against this scourge and sincerely thank those who contributed so generously to the Committee's work;

THAT it express its steadfast solidarity with and support for minors who have been the victims of sexual exploitation and those close to them;

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THAT it strongly encourage all Quebecers to become aware of the gravity of the situation and the disastrous consequences for the victims, and motivate them to protect minors and eradicate this bane of society.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; in accordance with the motion carried by the Assembly on 20 October 2020, a vote was held in accordance with the procedure for recorded divisions.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **634** in Appendix)

Yeas: **120** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), together with Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke) and Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey), moved a motion on holding compulsory exams for elementary and secondary school students; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), together with Mr. Roberge, Minister of Education and Higher Education, Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), Ms. Hivon (Joliette), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly note that the complaint review process in the school system does not meet the needs of students and families because it is perceived as being biased, ineffective and difficult to access;

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THAT it recognize that the lack of confidence in this process sometimes causes students and their families to use the media and social media platforms to be heard, and that it is necessary to restore confidence in the complaint review process;

THAT the National Assembly recall that in 2017 the Ombudsman tabled a damning report describing the Student Ombudsman's office as dysfunctional and making 19 recommendations to improve the complaints review process in the school system;

THAT the National Assembly ask the Québec government to follow up on the Québec Ombudsman's report and to reform the Student Ombudsman's office to ensure that it becomes a more effective mechanism, the gateway to the complaint review procedure and fully independent of school service centres, and that it has jurisdiction over private schools;

THAT the National Assembly call on the Government to commit to tabling a bill reforming the office of the Student Ombudsman by June 2021.

The question was put on this motion; in accordance with the motion carried by the Assembly on 20 October 2020, a vote was held in accordance with the procedure for recorded divisions.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **635** in Appendix)

Yeas: **120** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), together with Mr. Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard), Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly affirm that Québec patients should not have to pay to receive care outside their region;

THAT it take note that the amounts currently provided for under the compensation program for travel expenses intended for patients requiring health care outside their region compensate only a fraction of patients' expenses and, where applicable, those of their accompanying persons;

THAT it recall that on Thursday, 20 August 2020, within the context of the examination of estimates of expenditure, the Minister of Health pledged, before the Committee on Health and Social Services, to review the compensation program for travel expenses by the end of the fall;

THAT it call on the Government to table the guidelines for the program reviewed in the fall and increase compensation for travel expenses as soon as possible;

THAT, lastly, this review consider, in particular, creating a compensation program with its own operating budget.

The question was put on this motion; in accordance with the motion carried by the Assembly on 20 October 2020, a vote was held in accordance with the procedure for recorded divisions.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **636** in Appendix)

Yeas: **120** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 185, Mr. Legault, Premier, together with Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Ms. Massé, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Bérubé, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin), moved:

THAT the National Assembly of Québec express its profound sadness at the passing of Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, former President of the French Republic;

THAT it pay tribute to the long career and illustrious achievements of this French President, who also served his country as a mayor, parliamentarian, minister, member of the Constitutional Council, and member of the Académie française;

THAT the National Assembly pay its respects to this great friend of Québec, former teacher of Montréal's Collège Stanislas, and extend its most sincere condolences to his family and loved ones, as well as to the people of France;

THAT, lastly, the Members of this Assembly observe a minute of silence in his memory.

By leave of the Assembly, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; in accordance with the motion carried by the Assembly on 20 October 2020, a vote was held in accordance with the procedure for recorded divisions.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **637** in Appendix)

Yeas: **120** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

At the request of the President, the Assembly observed a minute of silence.

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 84.1, Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT today, Thursday, 3 December 2020, as soon as the Orders of the Day are announced, the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to undertake examination of the estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021, according to the following terms:

THAT, for a period not exceeding 1 hour, an exchange take place between the Minister of Transport and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT, immediately thereafter and for a period not exceeding 1 hour, an exchange take place between the Minister of Education and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT, at 1:00 p.m., the Committee of the Whole suspend its proceedings and that the proceedings of the Assembly be suspended until 3:00 p.m.;

THAT, at 3:00 p.m., the Committee of the Whole continue its proceedings and, if necessary, be able to conclude the exchange between the Minister of Education and the Members sitting in opposition;

THAT, immediately thereafter and for a period not exceeding 1 hour, an exchange take place between the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Members in opposition;

THAT, immediately thereafter and for a period not exceeding 1 hour, an exchange take place between the Minister of Higher Education and the Members in opposition;

THAT, immediately thereafter and for a period not exceeding 1 hour, an exchange take place between the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Members in opposition;

THAT, at 6:00 p.m., the Committee of the Whole suspend its proceedings and that the proceedings of the Assembly be suspended until 7:30 p.m.;

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THAT, at 7:30 p.m., the Committee of the Whole continue its proceedings and, if necessary, be able to conclude the exchange between the Minister of Health and Social Services and the Members in opposition;

THAT, immediately thereafter and for a period not exceeding 2 hours, an exchange take place between the Minister of Economy and Innovation and the Members in opposition;

THAT, immediately thereafter, the proceedings be adjourned until Friday, 4 December 2020;

THAT, on Friday, 4 December 2020, as soon as the Orders of the Day are announced, the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to continue its examination of the estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021, according to the following terms:

THAT, for a period not exceeding 1 hour, an exchange take place between the Chair of the Conseil du trésor and Minister Responsible for Government Administration and the Members in opposition;

THAT, immediately upon conclusion of this exchange, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole put the question for concurrence in all the supplementary estimates of expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021;

THAT the Committee of the Whole then report to the Assembly and that the question for concurrence in such report and the question for passage of the consequent appropriation bill be put without debate, pursuant to Standing Order 291;

THAT the President of the Assembly or the Chair of the Committee of the Whole be permitted to suspend the proceedings at any time;

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THAT the opening statements for each of the exchanges with the aforementioned ministers not exceed 5 minutes 34 seconds for the parliamentary group forming the Government; 3 minutes 43 seconds for the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition; 56 seconds for the Second Opposition Group; 56 seconds for the Third Opposition Group; and 51 seconds for the independent Members as a whole;

THAT, for each of the exchanges with the aforementioned ministers, a period of 1 minute 30 seconds per hour be set aside for exchanges with the independent Members as a whole;

THAT any time not used by the independent Members be redistributed proportionally among the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, the Second Opposition Group and the Third Opposition Group;

THAT the provisions of this motion take precedence over any incompatible provisions of the Standing Orders;

THAT this motion become an order of the Assembly.

The question was put on this motion; in accordance with the motion carried by the Assembly on 20 October 2020, a vote was held in accordance with the procedure for recorded divisions.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. **638** in Appendix)

Yeas: **120** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader, convened the following committees:

- the Committee on Public Finance, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 66, An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 46, An Act to amend the Natural Heritage Conservation Act and other provisions;
- the Committee on Transportation and the Environment, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 71, An Act respecting off-highway vehicles;
- the Committee on Institutions, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 75, An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 67, An Act to establish a new development regime for the flood zones of lakes and watercourses, to temporarily grant municipalities powers enabling them to respond to certain needs and to amend various provisions.

The President gave the following notices:

- the Committee on Citizen Relations shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of examining a petition;
- the Committee on Health and Social Services shall hold a deliberative meeting to discuss the possibility of carrying out an order of initiative.

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Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly

Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, requested a directive regarding the disclosure of the content of the report from the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors to journalists.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 59, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois, House Leader of the Second Opposition Group, tabled the following:

A copy of a Radio-Canada article, dated 3 December 2020, entitled “Exploitation sexuelle des mineurs au Québec : lutter contre les clients abuseurs”;
(Sessional Paper No. 2145-20201203)

A copy of an email, dated 2 December 2020, from Ms. Astrid Martin, Clerk of the Select Committee on the Sexual Exploitation of Minors, to the members of the Committee, concerning the confidentiality of the report.
(Sessional Paper No. 2146-20201203)

After having heard arguments from all sides, the President took the matter under advisement.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Estimates of Expenditure

Supplementary Estimates

Pursuant to the order just adopted, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to examine the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

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At 12:00 p.m., the President suspended the committee proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 12:06 p.m.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole

Pursuant to the order just adopted, the Committee of the Whole entered upon consideration of the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

By leave of the Committee of the Whole to set aside the order just adopted, the proceedings continued past 1:00 p.m.

At 1:09 p.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings until 3:00 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3:00 p.m.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole continued its examination of the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

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At 4:01 p.m., Mr. Gaudreault, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 4:07 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole continued its examination of the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

With the permission of Ms. Gaudreault, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Nadeau-Dubois (Gouin) tabled the following:

A document about a survey of youth centre rehabilitation workers relating to retention measures entitled “Sondage aux intervenants en réadaptation en Centre jeunesse - mesures de rétention de personnel”;

(Sessional Paper No. 2147-20201203)

A document about a survey of youth centre psychosocial sector workers relating to workload and staff retention entitled “Sondage aux intervenants du secteur psychosocial en Centre jeunesse - charge de travail et rétention de personnel”.

(Sessional Paper No. 2148-20201203)

At 5:09 p.m., Ms. Soucy, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 5:16 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole continued its examination of the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

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By leave of the Committee of the Whole to set aside the order just adopted, the proceedings continued past 6:00 p.m.

At 6:18 p.m., Ms. Soucy, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings until 7:30 p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 7:31 p.m.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole continued its examination of the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

At 8:33 p.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, suspended the committee proceedings for a few minutes.

The proceedings resumed at 8:39 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole continued its examination of the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

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With the permission of Ms. Gaudreault, Chair of the Committee of the Whole, Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) tabled the following:

A copy of a letter, dated 1 December 2020, addressed to Mr. Frantz Benjamin, Member for Viau, about government assistance programs in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(Sessional Paper No. 2149-20201203)

Mr. Bélanger (Orford), member of the Committee of the Whole, informed Ms. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, that the Committee had not finished deliberating on the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2021.

At 10:41 p.m., Ms. Gaudreault, Third Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Friday, 4 December 2020 at 9:40 a.m.

FRANÇOIS PARADIS

President

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Ms. Lecours (Les Plaines), together with Ms. St-Pierre (Acadie), Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve), Ms. Perry Mélançon (Gaspé), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin):

(Division No. 634)

YEAS - 120

Allaire (CAQ)	Dufour (CAQ)	LeBel (PQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Anglade (QLP)	Émond (CAQ)	(Rimouski)	(Côte-du-Sud)
Arcand (QLP)	Fitzgibbon (CAQ)	LeBel (CAQ)	Proulx (CAQ)
Arseneau (PQ)	Fontecilla (QS)	(Champlain)	(Berthier)
Asselin (CAQ)	Fortin (QLP)	Lecours (CAQ)	Provençal (CAQ)
Bachand (CAQ)	Foster (CAQ)	(Lotbinière-Frontenac)	Reid (CAQ)
Barrette (QLP)	Fournier (IND)	Lecours (CAQ)	Richard (PQ)
Bélanger (CAQ)	Gaudreault (PQ)	(Les Plaines)	Rizqy (QLP)
Benjamin (QLP)	(Jonquière)	Leduc (QS)	Roberge (CAQ)
Bérubé (PQ)	Ghazal (QS)	Lefebvre (CAQ)	Robitaille (QLP)
Birnbaum (QLP)	Girard (CAQ)	Legault (CAQ)	Rotiroti (QLP)
Blais (CAQ)	(Lac-Saint-Jean)	Leitão (QLP)	Rouleau (CAQ)
(Prévost)	Girard (CAQ)	Lemay (CAQ)	Rousselle (QLP)
Blais (CAQ)	(Groulx)	Lemieux (CAQ)	Roy (PQ)
(Abitibi-Ouest)	Girault (CAQ)	Lessard-Therrien (QS)	(Bonaventure)
Bonnardel (CAQ)	Grondin (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Roy (CAQ)
Boulet (CAQ)	Guilbault (CAQ)	(Chauveau)	(Montarville)
Boutin (CAQ)	Guillemette (CAQ)	Lévesque (CAQ)	Samson (CAQ)
Bussière (CAQ)	Hébert (CAQ)	(Chapleau)	Sauvé (QLP)
Caire (CAQ)	Hivon (PQ)	Maccarone (QLP)	Schneeberger (CAQ)
Campeau (CAQ)	Isabelle (CAQ)	Marissal (QS)	Simard (CAQ)
Carmant (CAQ)	Jacques (CAQ)	Martel (CAQ)	Skeete (CAQ)
Caron (CAQ)	Jeannotte (CAQ)	Massé (QS)	St-Pierre (QLP)
Charbonneau (QLP)	Jolin-Barrette (CAQ)	McCann (CAQ)	Tanguay (QLP)
Charest (CAQ)	Julien (CAQ)	Mélançon (QLP)	Tardif (CAQ)
Charette (CAQ)	Kelley (QLP)	Ménard (QLP)	(Lavolette-Saint-Maurice)
Chassé (CAQ)	Labrie (QS)	Montpetit (QLP)	Tardif (CAQ)
Chassin (CAQ)	Lachance (CAQ)	Nadeau-Dubois (QS)	(Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata)
Ciccone (QLP)	Lacombe (CAQ)	Nichols (QLP)	Thériault (QLP)
D'Amours (CAQ)	Laforest (CAQ)	Ouellet (PQ)	Thouin (CAQ)
Dansereau (CAQ)	Laframboise (CAQ)	Perry Mélançon (PQ)	Tremblay (CAQ)
David (QLP)	Lafrenière (CAQ)	Picard (CAQ)	Weil (QLP)
Derraji (QLP)	Lamontagne (CAQ)	(Soulanges)	Zanetti (QS)
Dorion (QS)	Lamothe (CAQ)	Polo (QLP)	
Dubé (CAQ)	Lavallée (CAQ)	Poulin (CAQ)	

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On the motion moved by Ms. Labrie (Sherbrooke), together with Mr. Roberge, Minister of Education, Ms. Rizqy (Saint-Laurent), Ms. Hivon (Joliette), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin):

(Division No. 635)

(Identical to Division No. 634)

On the motion moved by Mr. Arseneau (Îles-de-la-Madeleine), together with Mr. Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services, Ms. Montpetit (Maurice-Richard), Ms. Lessard-Therrien (Rouyn-Noranda-Témiscamingue), Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin):

(Division No. 636)

(Identical to Division No. 634)

On the motion moved by Mr. Legault, Premier, together with Ms. Anglade, Leader of the Official Opposition, Ms. Massé, Leader of the Second Opposition Group, Mr. Bérubé, Leader of the Third Opposition Group, Mr. Ouellette (Chomedey) and Ms. Fournier (Marie-Victorin):

(Division No. 637)

(Identical to Division No. 634)

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On the motion moved by Mr. Jolin-Barrette, Government House Leader:

(Division No. 638)

(Identical to Division No. 634)
