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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

## **Order Paper and Notices**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 17 April 2024 – No. 117**

*Nine forty a.m.*

**President of the National Assembly:  
Madam Nathalie Roy**

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Part 1  
**ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

**STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

- The Member for Chauveau on the following subject: *The 45th anniversary of the 267 Kondiaronk Royal Canadian Sea Cadets Corps and the Navy League of Canada – Loretteville Division.*
- The Member for Marquette on the following subject: *Tribute to a remarkable artist from the Marquette riding, Mr. Robert Séguin.*
- The Member for Charlevoix–Côte-de-Beaupré on the following subject: *Tribute to the Cap-à-l'Aigle unit of the Canadian Coast Guard.*
- The Member for Mercier on the following subject: *Underline the important work of Intercoop du Plateau Mont-Royal.*
- The Member for Saint-François on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Louise Bourgault for her impact on the Chambre de commerce de Sherbrooke.*
- The Member for Mille-Îles on the following subject: *Underline Earth Day.*
- The Member for Saint-Jean on the following subject: *Thanks to the French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal for his kind words and support.*
- The Member for Vachon on the following subject: *Tribute to Ms. Doris Laberge.*
- The Member for Fabre on the following subject: *World Creativity and Innovation Day.*
- The Member for Côte-du-Sud on the following subject: *The Everest de la Côte-du-Sud going to the Coupe NAPA finals.*
- The Member for Brome-Missisquoi on the following subject: *The 40th anniversary of the Centre de prévention du suicide de la Haute-Yamaska.*
- The Member for Borduas on the following subject: *The 55th anniversary of the Centre d'action bénévole de la Vallée-du-Richelieu.*

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**PRESENTING**      (a) Papers  
                         (b) Reports from committees  
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**ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

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Part 2

**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**BUSINESS HAVING PRECEDENCE**

**URGENT DEBATES**

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**OTHER BUSINESS**

**I. Government Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

- (1) Bill 32  
An Act to establish the cultural safety approach within the health and social services network  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit on 9 June 2023  
Report from the Committee on Institutions (consultations) tabled on **14 September 2023**
- (2) Bill 56  
An Act respecting family law reform and establishing the parental union regime  
Introduced by the Minister of Justice on **27 March 2024**
- (3) Bill 57  
An Act to enact the Act to protect elected officers and to facilitate the unhindered exercise of their functions and to amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs  
Introduced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs on **10 April 2024**

*Committee Stage*

- (4) Bill 30  
An Act to amend various provisions mainly with respect to the financial sector  
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 7 June 2023  
Passed in principle on **12 September 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

- (5) Bill 37  
An Act respecting the Commissioner for Children’s Well-Being and Rights  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Social Services on  
26 October 2023  
Report from the Committee on Health and Social Services (consultations)  
tabled on 13 February 2024  
Passed in principle on **14 February 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services
- (6) Bill 44  
An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Ministère de l’Économie et  
de l’Innovation with respect to research  
Introduced by the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy on  
7 February 2024  
Passed in principle on 20 February 2024, and  
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy  
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations)  
tabled on **28 March 2024**
- (7) Bill 45  
An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports mainly to better protect  
the integrity of persons in recreation and sports  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Sports, Recreation and the  
Outdoors, on 6 February 2024  
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain  
(consultations) tabled on 28 March 2024  
Passed in principle on **9 April 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
- (8) Bill 50  
An Act to enact the Act respecting civil protection to promote disaster  
resilience and to amend various provisions relating in particular to  
emergency communication centres and to forest fire protection  
Introduced by the Minister of Public Security on 31 January 2024  
Report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain  
(consultations) tabled on 21 March 2024  
Passed in principle on **26 March 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain

- (9) Bill 51  
An Act to modernize the construction industry  
Introduced by the Minister of Labour on 1 February 2024  
Report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy (consultations) tabled on 20 March 2024  
Passed in principle on **21 March 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Labour and the Economy
- (10) Bill 53  
An Act to enact the Act respecting protection against reprisals related to the disclosure of wrongdoings and to amend other legislative provisions  
Introduced by Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor, on 15 February 2024  
Report from the Committee on Public Finance (consultations) tabled on 9 April 2024  
Passed in principle on **10 April 2024**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Public Finance

*Report Stage*

- (11) Bill 49  
An Act to give effect to fiscal measures announced in the Budget Speech delivered on 21 March 2023 and to certain other measures  
Introduced by the Minister of Finance on 8 February 2024  
Passed in principle on 20 February 2024  
Report from the Committee on Public Finance tabled on **16 April 2024**
- (12) Bill 52  
An Act to enable the Parliament of Québec to preserve the principle of parliamentary sovereignty with respect to the Act respecting the laicity of the State  
Introduced by the Minister Responsible for Laicity on 8 February 2024  
Passed in principle on 20 February 2024, and  
Referred to the Committee on Citizen Relations  
Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations (consultations) tabled on **10 April 2024**  
Report from the Committee on Citizen Relations tabled on **11 April 2024**

*Passage*

**(13) Bill 48**

An Act to amend mainly the Highway Safety Code to introduce provisions relating to detection systems and other highway safety-related provisions

Introduced by the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility on 8 December 2023

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment (consultations) tabled on 13 February 2024

Passed in principle on 20 February 2024

Report from the Committee on Transportation and the Environment adopted on 10 April 2024

Resuming the debate adjourned on **11 April 2024**

**II. Private Members' Public Bills**

*Passage in Principle*

**(14) Bill 190**

An Act to recognize the Members' oath to the people of Québec as the sole oath required for Members to take office

Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **1 December 2022**

**(15) Bill 191**

An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports to prohibit fighting in sports activities in which persons under 18 years of age participate

Introduced by the Member for Marquette on **8 December 2022**

**(16) Bill 192**

An Act to ensure student health and safety in the classroom by regulating ambient air quality in schools

Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **7 December 2022**

**(17) Bill 193**

An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms to recognize the right to a healthful environment as a fundamental right

Introduced by the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce on **1 February 2023**



- (18) Bill 195  
An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act to fight planned obsolescence and assert the right to repair goods  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **2 February 2023**
- (19) Bill 196  
An Act to amend the Educational Childcare Act to guarantee the right to receive childcare services  
Introduced by the Member for Robert-Baldwin on **14 March 2023**
- (20) Bill 197  
An Act to improve the quality of care through the setting of ratios in certain institutions governed by the Act respecting health services and social services  
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on **6 December 2022**
- (21) Bill 198  
An Act to amend the Civil Code to ensure greater protection of seniors as lessees against repossession of dwellings and evictions  
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **21 February 2023**  
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Vimont on **28 March 2024**
- (22) Bill 199  
An Act to better protect consumers against abusive credit contracts  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **23 February 2023**
- (23) Bill 390  
An Act to promote taking gender equality and diversity in an intersectional perspective into account in the budgetary process  
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **21 March 2023**
- (24) Bill 391  
An Act to amend the Education Act to enshrine the right to free special school projects offered in schools providing preschool or elementary and secondary education and to limit the distance between immovables of a school with a special project  
Introduced by the Member for Saint-Laurent on **16 March 2023**
- (25) Bill 392  
An Act respecting the suspension of the issuing of new mining claims and ending the precedence of mining and gas rights over other land uses  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **18 April 2023**

- (26) Bill 393  
An Act to combat food waste  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on **6 April 2023**
- (27) Bill 394  
An Act respecting the implementation of study-family-work balance policies in particular in higher education institutions  
Introduced by the Member for Hochelaga-Maisonneuve on **5 December 2023**
- (28) Bill 395  
An Act to replace the name of the electoral division of Matane-Matapédia by Matane-Matapédia-Mitis  
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **11 April 2024**
- (29) Bill 396  
An Act to amend the Act to reduce the debt and establish the Generations Fund to provide for the achievement of a capitalization of one hundred billion dollars  
Introduced by the Member for Marguerite-Bourgeoys on **16 March 2023**
- (30) Bill 397  
An Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in educational institutions that provide preschool education services, elementary school instructional services or secondary school instructional services in general or vocational education, including adult education services  
Introduced by the Member for Mercier on **27 April 2023**
- (31) Bill 398  
An Act to amend the Education Act to enshrine the right of handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning disabilities to receive educational services equivalent to those provided by the school  
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **20 April 2023**
- (32) Bill 399  
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to require the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec to make and to report on investments with sustainable social and environmental impacts  
Introduced by the Member for Maurice-Richard on **27 April 2023**
- (33) Bill 490  
An Act to reinforce the qualified majority required for the appointment and removal of persons appointed by the National Assembly  
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **18 April 2023**

- (34) Bill 491  
491, An Act amending the Public Infrastructure Act to submit projects included in the Québec infrastructure plan to a climate test  
Introduced by the Member for Taschereau on **14 September 2023**
- (35) Bill 492  
An Act to combat waste  
Introduced by the Member for Îles-de-la-Madeleine on **18 April 2023**
- (36) Bill 493  
An Act to amend the Québec Immigration Act to take temporary residents into account for immigration planning purposes  
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **10 May 2023**
- (37) Bill 494  
An Act to amend the Civil Code to render without effect the clauses of a lease of a dwelling tending to prohibit companion animals  
Introduced by the Member for Laurier-Dorion on **25 May 2023**
- (38) Bill 495  
Anti-Farm Land Grabbing Act  
Introduced by the Member for Verdun on 26 September 2023  
Resuming the debate adjourned in the name of the Member for Jonquière on **31 January 2024**
- (39) Bill 496  
An Act to recognize the white admiral as the emblematic insect of Québec  
Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on **9 June 2023**
- (40) Bill 499  
An Act to establish a new electoral system  
Introduced by the Member for Jean-Lesage on **5 October 2023**
- (41) Bill 591  
An Act mainly to reinforce Members' oversight of government action by recognizing their right to visit administrative institutions  
Introduced by the Member for Sherbrooke on **21 March 2024**
- (42) Bill 593  
An Act to amend the Civil Code to prohibit evictions carried out with a view to converting a dwelling into short-term tourist accommodation  
Introduced by the Member for Mille-Îles on **4 October 2023**

- (43) Bill 596  
An Act amending mainly the Act respecting land use planning and development so that municipalities may adopt a differentiated zoning by-law aimed at increasing and sustaining the supply of social housing or affordable housing  
Introduced by the Member for Mille-Îles on **24 October 2023**
- (44) Bill 597  
An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to establish a right of citizen initiative in environmental matters and reinforce the powers and independence of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement  
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **1 February 2024**
- (45) Bill 599  
An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan to abolish the reduction of the retirement pension of a person who receives a disability pension between 60 and 65 years of age  
Introduced by the Member for Maurice-Richard on **20 February 2024**
- (46) Bill 690  
An Act to amend the Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan to rectify an inequity toward disabled retirees  
Introduced by the Member for La Pinière on 23 November 2023  
Resuming the debate ajourned on **7 December 2023**
- (47) Bill 691  
An Act to amend various legislative provisions regarding financial assistance for education expenses  
Introduced by the Member for Matane-Matapédia on **7 December 2023**
- (48) Bill 693  
An Act to foster the active contribution to society of recipients under the Social Solidarity Program  
Introduced by the Member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce on **22 February 2024**
- (49) Bill 694  
An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code to more effectively fight drinking and driving  
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **19 March 2024**
- (50) Bill 695  
Parliamentary Budget Officer Act  
Introduced by the Member for Nelligan on **14 March 2024**

*Committee Stage*

- (51) Bill 194  
An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death  
Introduced by the Member for Pontiac on 26 April 2023  
Passed in principle on **9 June 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Health and Social Services

*Report Stage*

*Passage*

**III. Private Bills**

*Hearings and Clause-by-Clause Consideration*

- (52) Bill 201  
An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights  
Introduced by the Member for Argenteuil on **20 April 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain
- (53) Bill 203  
An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal  
Introduced by the Member for Westmount–Saint-Louis on **19 April 2023**, and  
Referred to the Committee on Institutions

*Passage in Principle*

*Passage*

**IV. Government Motions**

**V. Estimates of Expenditure**

- (54) Estimates of Expenditure for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2025 tabled by the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and Chair of the Conseil du trésor on 12 March 2024 and referred for consideration to the standing committees on **13 March 2024**.

**VI. Statutory Debates**

**BUSINESS STANDING IN THE NAME OF MEMBERS IN OPPOSITION**

Part 3

**BILLS PASSED**

*(Bills awaiting Royal Assent)*

## Part 4

### PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEES

*The detailed calendar of the proceedings of each committee is available on the Internet site of the Assembly.*

#### COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

#### **Orders in compliance with the Standing Orders**

- Hearing of Hydro-Québec on Chapter 5 of the Auditor General’s December 2022 report entitled “Hydro-Québec: maintenance des actifs du réseau de distribution d’électricité” (Hydro-Québec: Maintenance of electricity distribution network assets).
- Hearing of the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, the CISSS de la Montérégie-Centre, the CIUSSS de l’Estrie-CHUS and the CIUSS de l’Ouest-de-l’Île-de-Montréal on Chapter 2 of the Auditor General’s May 2023 report entitled “Octroi de contrats de gré à gré : en vertu du décret d’urgence sanitaire, ou pour obtenir des places d’hébergement et de la main-d’œuvre indépendante” (Awarding untendered contracts: Under public health emergency orders, or to obtain residential and long term care beds and independent labour).
- Hearing of the Auditor General of Québec on its annual management report and financial commitments.

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

#### **Orders of reference**

##### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 45**, An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports mainly to better protect the integrity of persons in recreation and sports (Order of reference given on 9 April 2024).
- **Bill 50**, An Act to enact the Act respecting civil protection to promote disaster resilience and to amend various provisions relating in particular to emergency communication centres and to forest fire protection (Order of reference given on 26 March 2024).



- **Bill 201**, An Act respecting Municipalité de Morin-Heights (Order of reference given on 20 April 2023).

### COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION

### COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND THE ECONOMY

#### Orders of reference

##### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 44**, An Act to amend mainly the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation with respect to research (Order of reference given on 20 February 2024).
- **Bill 51**, An Act to modernize the construction industry (Order of reference given on 21 March 2024).

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC FINANCE

#### Orders of reference

##### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 30**, An Act to amend various provisions mainly with respect to the financial sector (Order of reference given on 12 September 2023).
- **Bill 53**, An Act to enact the Act respecting protection against reprisals related to the disclosure of wrongdoings and to amend other legislative provisions (Order of reference given on 10 April 2024).

### COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS

#### Orders of reference

##### Special Consultations:

- **Bill 56**, An Act respecting family law reform and establishing the parental union regime (Order of reference given on 11 April 2024).

##### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 203**, An Act respecting the objects and powers of the Roman Catholic Archiepiscopal corporation of Montreal (Order of reference given on 19 April 2023).
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## COMMITTEE ON CITIZEN RELATIONS

## COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### **Orders of reference**

#### Consideration of Bills:

- **Bill 37**, An Act respecting the Commissioner for Children's Well-Being and Rights (Order of reference given on 14 February 2023).
- **Bill 194**, An Act to establish a presumption of consent to organ or tissue donation after death (Order of reference given on 9 June 2023).

### **Orders of initiative**

- The ways to facilitate organ and tissue donation, in particular the adoption of presumed consent to organ and tissue donation.

## COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Part 5

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Questions already placed on the Order Paper  
are published each Wednesday

(102) Mr. Zanetti (Jean-Lesage) – **22 February 2024**

To the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks

In 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) reviewed its air quality guidelines for certain major air pollutants: fine particulate matter (PM 2.5 and PM 10), ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide.

Given that the Clean Air Regulation (CAR) was passed in 2011, the standards applicable in Québec were compared with the reference values developed by the WHO in 2005 and not with those developed in 2021.

In January 2023, the Groupe de travail sur les contaminants atmosphériques (GTCA), established by the Minister, made public its report on the air quality in the Limoilou–Basse-Ville sector entitled *Rapport sur le portrait de la qualité de l'air du secteur Limoilou-Basse-Ville, propositions de mesures d'atténuation et recommandations*. The GTCA targets fine particulate matter as pollutants that are a priority and especially harmful. It also identified total suspended particulates (TSP) as a priority. The report *Mon environnement, ma santé*, presented by the Direction de santé publique de la Capitale-Nationale on 13 March 2023, also points to fine particulate matter.

Note that the CAR does not contain any PM 10 standards, and has no annual standards for PM 2.5 or TSP.

On 6 February 2024, the Association québécoise des médecins pour l'environnement published a frame of reference for healthy air entitled *Cadre de référence pour un air sain*. The Association asks, among other things, for the update of the toxicity threshold of certain air pollutants, including fine particulate matter of 2.5 micrometers.

My questions to the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks are the following:

1. Does the Minister intend to follow the experts' recommendations and reduce the particulate matter (PM 2.5), ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide standards to be in line with the WHO's new guidelines?

2. Does the Minister intend to set a standard (daily and annual) for PM 10, according to the guideline levels from the WHO?
3. Does the Minister plan to add a high season standard for ozone, a 24-hour standard for carbon monoxide and an annual standard for PM 2.5, all based on the guideline levels from the WHO?
4. Does the Minister intend to set an annual standard for total suspended particulates?

(106) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **13 March 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action

As the Minister knows, people experiencing homelessness who take advantage of the provisions of subsidized housing programs, such as the Rent Supplement Program or low-rental housing, benefit from social support that allows for better reintegration.

However, at the moment, women victims of conjugal violence have no levers for support once they leave the family home. Considering the housing crisis, many women are currently forced to stay in their toxic environment for lack of affordable housing, and especially, housing suitable for their families. In addition to this issue, as mentioned, is the absence of support when they access the Rent Supplement Program or low-rental housing, which greatly reduces their chances of success.

The consequences are disastrous. In the Vaudreuil riding, some women have lost their access to social housing because of a lack of support. It is likely that they and their children have had to return to their toxic environment where violence prevails.

To help the women and children stuck in these situations, we ask that, first, the Minister explain to us the services available to women victims of conjugal violence who are rebuilding their lives in subsidized housing.

In addition, is it possible to improve the support services offered to women victims of conjugal violence and the organizations responsible for managing subsidized housing?

(108) Mr. Marissal (Rosemont) – **14 March 2024**

To the Minister of Health

In Québec, the *Act respecting prescription drug insurance* provides that patients must pay a portion of the costs related to the purchase of prescription drugs. This contribution includes a deductible amount and a coinsurance payment.

For most people, the maximum annual contribution is \$1,196, and this must be adhered to by the RAMQ and private insurers alike, without exception. For patients insured by the RAMQ, this amount is spread over 12 months, with a monthly maximum contribution. This means that patients do not pay more than \$99.65 per month (for a total of \$1,196 per year).

However, when a patient has private insurance, the insurer does not spread the amount payable over 12 months (because there is no monthly maximum contribution) and payment is required in full at the time of purchase at the pharmacy. Since the amount owed depends on the cost of the medication itself and the percentage of the coverage under the patient's plan, there is often a significant amount to be paid for several consecutive months at the start of the year.

This situation can impose a heavy financial burden on vulnerable patients with private insurance compared to patients covered by the public prescription drug insurance plan.

My questions to the Minister of Health are the following:

What measures does the Minister intend to take to require private insurers to set up a process for the monthly distribution of deductible and coinsurance payments similar to that of the RAMQ?

If so, does the Minister intend to apply the Act so as to guarantee that every patient in Québec, regardless of whether they are covered privately or by the RAMQ, can have their deductible and coinsurance payments spread over 12 months?

(109) Mr. Derraji (Nelligan) – **19 March 2024**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

The Assembly recently held its consideration of Interim Supply for 2024–2025 during which I asked the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility questions about public transit bus electrification. However, several questions have yet to be answered.

Can the Minister tell us the cost of one all-electric bus and the range of a battery?  
Can she also tell us the cost of retrofitting or building a garage for electric buses for each public transit authority?

(110) Mr. Leduc (Hochelaga-Maisonneuve) – **20 March 2024**  
To the Minister of Labour

It is now well known that the rising cost of living and the housing crisis have a significant impact on seniors, as they live mainly on fixed incomes. This precarious situation also includes seniors who were victims of work accidents or occupational diseases during their working lives and who now collect a retirement pension at the age of 65.

Currently, however, the *Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan* (AQPP) and the *Act respecting industrial accidents and occupational diseases* (AIAOD) unfairly penalize victims of work accidents and occupational diseases who receive income replacement indemnities over a long period. Indeed, many of them receive a lower pension amount than they would have otherwise received had they not been victims of an employment accident or an occupational disease. This situation is contrary to the purpose of the AIAOD to provide compensation for victims of employment injuries or occupational diseases.

The AQPP does not provide for victims of employment injuries and occupational diseases to fully contribute to the Québec Pension Plan while they receive income replacement indemnities. The AQPP only takes into account an individual's working income to determine their pensionable salary, which excludes income replacement indemnities.

As for the AIAOD, contributions made to the Québec Pension Plan are subtracted from income replacement indemnities without being paid into the Québec Pension Plan. To calculate the net income and the income replacement indemnity equal to 90% of that net income, the CNESST subtracts all contributions made from the gross income. Victims of work accidents and occupational diseases are therefore deprived of their Québec Pension Plan contributions, as well as those made by their employer, for the duration of their total disability. The pensions of victims who hold suitable employment and receive income replacement indemnities to make up for the wage difference between their pre-injury occupation are similarly affected. It is important to point out that this second type of indemnity represents the vast majority of long-term indemnities.

As a result, the vast majority of victims of work accidents and occupational diseases cannot benefit from the exclusion measures provided for in the AQPP and are instead penalized when they retire. In many cases, this can represent a loss of several hundreds of dollars per month. However, a solution that has already been considered by the CNEST, or the CSST as it was called at the time, could easily resolve this issue.

Indeed, before the passage of the AIAOD in 1985, injured workers received indemnities from the CSST until their death. These life pensions were abolished with the introduction of the AIAOD. In the 1981 draft bill on compensation for employment injuries, the CSST had considered a measure to make up for the abolition of the life pensions. The draft bill provided that the CSST would pay the pension contribution subtracted from the income replacement indemnity, and the employer's contribution, directly into the Québec Pension Plan. It was agreed that the amounts deducted for this purpose would be taken from the CSST's accident fund. The following excerpt from the draft bill clearly shows the CSST's vision at the time: "The beneficiary of an income replacement indemnity contributes to the pension plan provided for in the *Act respecting the Québec Pension Plan* (chapter R-9) as if they had continued to work. The Commission deducts the worker's share from the indemnity and assumes the employer's share (...) the worker is then in the same situation they would have been in had they continued to work. This prevents the worker from suffering further harm because of their injury." [Translation]

In other words, it would be possible to apply the CSST's reasoning and amend the AIAOD and the AQPP, in particular sections 63 and 45 respectively, so that victims of work accidents and occupational diseases are no longer unfairly penalized upon their retirement.

Considering the above, my questions are the following:

1. Will the Minister of Labour acknowledge that the housing crisis and rising cost of living particularly affect seniors, including seniors who have been victims of work accidents and occupational diseases?
2. Will the Minister of Labour acknowledge that, in such circumstances, effective measures must be considered to support seniors?

3. Can the Minister of Labour tell us if the CNESST has estimated the costs of implementing the above-mentioned solution, that is, having the CNESST pay the worker and the employer's contributions into the Québec Pension Plan?
4. If not, can the Minister of Labour ask the CNESST to estimate the costs of such a measure?
5. Will the Minister of Labour commit to legislating so that victims of work accidents and occupational diseases are no longer unfairly penalized upon retirement?

(111) Ms. Cadet (Bourassa-Sauvé) – **20 March 2024**

To the Minister Responsible for Youth

We all know that the Maisons des jeunes (youth centres) play an important role for young people.

How does the Minister Responsible for Youth plan to support the infrastructure and equipment needs of the youth centres that are members of the Regroupement des maisons des jeunes du Québec, so that they can provide young people with a safe and stimulating environment?

Similarly, with a view to maintaining and developing the Maisons des jeunes du Québec, does the Minister plan to adopt specific measures to facilitate access for the Maisons des jeunes to funds dedicated to social innovation and the implementation of experimental projects addressing emerging youth issues?

(112) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **21 March 2024**

To the Minister of Finance

In August 2023, the Premier admitted that more needed to be done with regard to housing, in particular for those most in need.

Though he claimed he would consider all measures to be undertaken, the budget tabled on 12 March 2024 indicates that this is not the case.

According to the Office régional d'habitation de Vaudreuil-Soulanges (ORHVS), families are the main victims of the housing crisis. There is no supply of 5 ½, 6 ½, or 7 ½-unit apartments. As a result, in 2023, the ORHVS had to house families with young children in hotels.



Consequently, the housing crisis rages on and stakeholders in the field are questioning more than ever the initiatives ignored by the Government, in particular those intended to promote the construction of affordable housing.

Housing parents and children in hotels is not a sustainable solution, nor is it healthy for the mental health of families, not to mention the fact that the costs of these supposedly temporary accommodations are remarkably high.

Accordingly, the Government's tax measures to stimulate and possibly accelerate housing construction must take into account avoidable expenses such as hotel costs.

A study commissioned by the Association des professionnels de la construction et de l'habitation du Québec indicates that suspending the QST would help turn unprofitable rental projects into profitable development projects. Does the Minister intend to follow in the footsteps of the federal government and other Canadian provinces and grant a tax holiday?

Can the Minister explain what measures taken in his budget will make it possible for families housed in hotels of the Vaudreuil and Soulanges region to be relocated as early as 2024?

**(113) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – 28 March 2024**

To the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks

For several years, the MRC des Basques has been asking the Québec government to take action to buy the rights to the Club des Appalaches, the last private hunting and fishing club in Québec, in order to give all citizens access to the right to hunt and fish within its territory. Since 1901, only a small number of hunters and fishers have been authorized to engage in hunting and fishing activities in the unorganized territory of Lac-Boisbouscache, which is the property of the State. This request raises important issues related to environmental preservation, regional development, access to land and territorial governance.

My questions are the following:

Does the Québec government intend to take positive action in regard to this request from the MRC des Basques? If so, what are the details of the procedure? If not, why?

(114) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **28 March 2024**

To the Minister of Health

Many residents of our regions have to travel long distances to access health services, without reaching the 200-km threshold required to receive financial assistance from the Ministère de la Santé for travel expenses.

For example, a resident of Sainte-Anne-des-Monts, Tourelle sector, who travels 194 km to the Centre hospitalier de Rimouski is not reimbursed under the travel expense policy. The situation is especially concerning considering the increased cost of fuel and accommodations and the centralization of health care. This often puts a financial strain on people who are sick and who have to travel frequently to obtain health care.

If the Government decides that there is not enough demand for specialized or highly specialized care in regions to warrant investment and, consequently, we make patients travel, the cost must be covered by the State. If Québec's health care system is universal, free and accessible to everyone in the territory, then those who live in remote regions should not have to unfairly carry a heavier financial burden because we decide not to provide health care in these areas. In this context, it is necessary to review the 200-km rule, which seems to be a purely arbitrary threshold.

My questions are the following:

- Will the Ministère de la Santé change its User Travel Policy to significantly reduce the minimum distance eligible for reimbursement?
- If yes, what will the new conditions be (new threshold, timetable, etc.)?

(115) Mr. Bérubé (Matane-Matapédia) – **28 March 2024**

To the Minister of Culture and Communications

The École nationale de l'humour is a higher education institution unique in Québec that, thanks to support from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, has trained more than 700 comedians, writers and screenwriters.

The school's current facilities on the corner of Rue Sherbrooke and Avenue De Lorimier no longer meet its needs or allow it to achieve its growth objectives. Moving to the heart of the Quartier Latin would allow it to be closer to cultural presenters, including the Espace St-Denis, the Maison de la chanson and the Bordel Comédie Club, and make a positive contribution to the revitalization of the Quartier.

Based on feasibility studies, the École nationale de l'humour's management identified two buildings in the Quartier Latin on Rue Saint-Denis that meet the institution's current and future needs. Ms. Louise Richer, Executive Director of the École nationale de l'humour, also submits that "the Quartier des Spectacles Partnership welcomes the eventual arrival of the school on Rue Saint-Denis as a pillar of revitalization". [Translation]

The École nationale de l'humour asked the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications for support to carry out the necessary work to adapt the building for its training purposes but has yet to receive a firm commitment. Furthermore, the budget documents and the Québec Infrastructure Plan tabled on 12 March 2024 make no mention whatsoever of the project.

My questions to the Minister of Culture and Communications are the following:

- 1- Does the Government intend to allocate funding in the current fiscal year to allow the l'École nationale de l'humour to acquire new facilities in the heart of the Quartier Latin and adapt the space for its teaching mission?
- 2- Does the Government recognize that this project will make a positive impact on the revitalization of the Quartier Latin in the short term, which is a goal of the Government, as stated by the Minister Responsible for the Metropolis and the Montréal Region?

(116) Ms. Nichols (Vaudreuil) – **28 March 2024**

To the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility

The Minister is well aware that the citizens of the Vaudreuil and Soulanges ridings are affected daily by the management of transportation and sustainable mobility.

Firstly, the construction project for a Highway 20 bypass route is stalling under the pretext that a BAPE study is required, unlike other governmental projects.

Secondly, sustainable mobility in the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region has no hope of improving since the CAQ government still refuses to extend the REM to Vaudreuil-Dorion or even add lanes reserved for public transportation on the new Île-aux-Tourtes bridge.

Nothing is being done to help the citizens of Vaudreuil-Soulanges alleviate their daily frustrations. For months now, the riding offices of Vaudreuil and Soulanges have been receiving high volumes of calls, messages and comments related to the situation and traffic congestion. Every day, social media is flooded with statements from exasperated citizens.

Under these circumstances, it is unthinkable that citizens continue to endure this nightmare for three more years. The livelihood and family issues of many people are at stake, businesses are at risk, and moves and relocations are anticipated, not to mention the distress of the thousands of people who have no choice but to use the road network to get around every day.

Given this intolerable situation, it is imperative that mitigation measures be quickly implemented.

Can the Minister ensure that the work necessary to reinforce the current bridge be carried out as soon as possible so as to reopen the lanes and re-establish dynamic traffic management?

Could the Minister make access to Highway 30 free at all times?

Lastly, could the Minister ensure the optimal synchronization of traffic lights on Boulevard Harwood in Vaudreuil-Dorion?

- (117) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **9 April 2024**  
To the minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Although grain producers have already begun modernizing their agri-environmental practices, they require the financial support of the State to continue and speed up this process, in order to keep pace with the legitimate expectations of society.

Despite the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's allocation to the first two cohorts of the Initiative on Compensating Agri-Environmental Practices and the amounts pledged as part of electoral promises, it is essential that stable funding be secured for the next five years.

Such a commitment would ensure sustainable funding and boost the confidence of grain producers, who are often forced to self-finance. Given the importance of agriculture, in particular the grain sector, and the effects of this necessary agri-environmental transition, the budgetary planning of agri-environmental compensation cannot be carried out on an irregular basis. Sustained financial support would contribute to the achievement of the government's objectives set out in the 2020–2030 sustainable agriculture plan entitled "Plan d'agriculture durable 2020-2030" with regard to sustainable development in the food sector.

- Given that the Minister had the chance to witness the scale of agri-environmental transition efforts during his visit to France, and that that country provides much more support compared to Québec, would the Minister be willing to provide an annual agri-environmental practices funding of \$50M to grain producers in order to facilitate this transition?
- Is the Minister in favour of implementing a visionary and sustainable initiative on compensating agri-environmental practices that no longer falls under her sole responsibility?

(118) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **9 April 2024**  
To the minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Grain producers working in remote regions must deal with significant issues: the distance from processors, high transport costs for grain sold and inputs purchased, the obligation to coordinate travel so that trucks are full both coming and going, a smaller number of buyers that produces a downward effect on prices and, lastly, weather and agronomic conditions that limit crop choices and the potential for profit.

For the grain sector to overcome these obstacles, it is imperative that the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation implement a program that is specifically aimed at producers in the regions concerned. The issues they face require appropriate economic levers, notably substantial investments to improve profitability, increase the competitiveness of the grain sector and maintain its appeal for future producers.

The Government uses data based on a generalization and a consideration of Québec agriculture in its entirety to demonstrate that remote regions perform as well as central regions. However, producers in remote regions are struggling to survive financially, which leads to abandoned land. In this regard, it would be both useful and relevant to implement investment tax credits intended for producers in peripheral regions to promote the development of their business infrastructure, and to comprehensively cover the crop rotations of these producers using income security programs.

Can the Minister of Agriculture tell us what he intends to do to financially support grain producers in remote regions so that they can continue their transition to sustainable agriculture and maintain their appeal for the next generation of farmers?

(119) Mr. Fortin (Pontiac) – **11 April 2024**  
To the Minister of Health

On 9 February 2024, a *La Tribune* article entitled “97 % des besoins en pharmaciens en dialyse ne sont pas comblés au CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS” stated that it is almost impossible to have access to a pharmacist for some of the CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS' dialysis services due to the critical staff shortage in this area.

The article reveals that in the fields of dialysis, emergency care, intensive care and oncology, the shortage rates in the Estrie region range from 16% for oncology to 97% for dialysis. The shortage rates for emergency care and intensive care range from 37% to 52%, respectively.

Can the Minister quickly take the necessary corrective action to ensure that the population of the Estrie region has access to care which, in many cases, can be essential for the patient?

(120) Mr. Bouazzi (Maurice-Richard) – **17 April 2024**

To the Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy

In Québec, energy access issues are invisible, but a significant number of households are in a state of energy poverty. This means that they are struggling to pay their electricity bill and must deprive themselves of other essentials to pay the bill or reduce their electricity consumption to below what is required for their basic needs.

Each year, Hydro-Québec enters into hundreds of thousands of payment arrangements with its residential customers and carries out tens of thousands of service interruptions. For example, in 2019, Hydro-Québec entered into nearly 379,000 payment arrangements with its residential customers. That same year, the homes of 57,000 customers in collections were affected by service interruptions, a number that is equivalent to the population of Saint-Hyacinthe. In 11% of the cases, the customer experienced a service interruption lasting more than a week. During a time of extreme cold or heat, not having electricity for multiple days can jeopardize these people's health.

Consuming energy in your home is not a choice: it is necessary to meet your basic needs, such as eating, heating, washing and staying healthy. Furthermore, access to energy is a condition that must be met for everyone to fully enjoy their fundamental human rights. Energy poverty is therefore a serious problem with very serious consequences.

Poorly ventilated, badly heated, or inadequately insulated housing is a danger to the health and safety of those living in it. The lack of electricity or heating has major impacts on health. For example, cold and damp homes that are inadequately heated increase the rates of mortality and morbidity among vulnerable households. Cold weather and heating issues increase the risk of developing diseases and excess mortality. The same goes for hot weather and air conditioning issues.

Various studies have identified three main families of conditions related to energy poverty: respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases and mental illnesses. Energy poverty also increases the risk of infections (due to poor food or personal hygiene) and accidents (due to, among other things, inadequate lighting).

Energy poverty issues also affect people's ability to eat well. How can you preserve and cook your food when your fridge or stove isn't working? To avoid having to eat unsafe food, some households resort to ready-to-eat meals, which significantly increase grocery expenses.

My question is the following:

Although electricity rates are relatively low in Québec, an increasing number of households are struggling to pay their electricity bill. One in seven people (16% of the population of Québec) is experiencing energy poverty. What is the Minister's plan to ensure that the bill to regulate clean energies he has promised to table does not result in more energy poverty in Québec?



Part 6  
**NOTICES**

**I. NOTICES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN**

**Government Bills**

**Private Members' Public Bills**

- (a) 12 September 2023  
An Act to make available the documents from the inquiry conducted by  
Investigation Commissioner Bernard Grenier concerning the unlawful  
activities of Option Canada in the 1995 Québec Referendum – *Member for  
Camille-Laurin*

**Private Bills**

**II. NOTICES APPEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME**