



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 794

**An Act to declare Québec's
commitment to achieve net-zero
emissions by 2050**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Madam Alejandra Zaga Mendez
Member for Verdun**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill amends the Environment Quality Act to declare that Québec's target for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions is achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 and to specify that the Government is committed to taking the necessary emission reduction measures to reach that target.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2).

Bill 794

AN ACT TO DECLARE QUÉBEC'S COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE NET-ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2050

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

ENVIRONMENT QUALITY ACT

1. Section 46.4 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) is replaced by the following section:

“46.4. To fight global warming and anthropogenic climate change, Québec's target for greenhouse gas emissions is achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, and the Government is committed to taking the necessary emission reduction measures to reach that target.

In order to achieve net-zero emissions, the Government sets, by order, an overall greenhouse gas reduction target for Québec, which may not be inferior to 37.5%, for each period it determines, using 1990 emissions as the baseline, and which must be higher than the previous period. The targets set must be reviewed every five years.

The Government may break down a target set under the second paragraph into specific reduction or limitation targets for the sectors of activity it determines after consulting the advisory committee on climate change.

When setting targets, the Government considers such factors as

- (1) the characteristics of greenhouse gases;
- (2) advances in climate change science and technology as well as scientific consensus regarding climate change;
- (3) the economic, social and environmental consequences of climate change, and the likely impact of the emission reductions or limitations needed to achieve the targets; and
- (4) emission reduction goals under any program, policy or strategy to fight global warming and climate change or under any international commitment made or Canadian intergovernmental agreement entered into in accordance with the applicable legislative provisions for that purpose.

The setting or review of a target referred to in the second paragraph is subject to special consultations by the competent parliamentary committee of the National Assembly. No such consultations may be held until the advisory committee on climate change has made public its advice regarding the target to be set or reviewed.

An order under this section comes into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date specified in the order.

“Net-zero emissions” means that anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere are balanced by anthropogenic removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere over a specified period.”

FINAL PROVISION

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