NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 1

Québec Constitution Act, 2025

Introduction

Introduced by
Mr. Simon Jolin-Barrette
Minister of Justice and Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill enacts the Constitution of Québec, the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec and the Act respecting the Conseil constitutionnel. In addition, it amends the Constitution Act, 1867 and various Acts of Québec.

The Constitution of Québec, which states its primacy over any inconsistent rule of law, defines the Québec nation and establishes its attributes and collective rights. The system for the protection of human rights and freedoms and the fundamental language rights form part of the Constitution. The Constitution determines the founding principles of the national State of Québec and its fundamental responsibilities relating to, among other things, the nation's attributes and collective rights as well as Québec's distinct social values, including equality of women and men. The Constitution identifies the holders of the legislative, executive and judicial powers as well as their functions and duties. Lastly, it reiterates the principles that are to guide the actions of the State in external affairs.

The Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec mainly establishes the policy directions for parliamentary and government action as it relates to the constitutional autonomy of Québec. With respect to parliamentary action, that Act provides that the National Assembly is to hold special sittings to debate constitutional issues. It forbids certain bodies from using public funds to contest certain Acts which state that they protect the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec. With respect to government action, it prescribes that a ten-year State strategy on the constitutional autonomy of Québec must be developed. It also specifies that the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs may issue directives to government departments and bodies relating to usage and practice in the conduct of Canadian relations. In addition, that Act allows the Government to make a directive regarding the preservation of the constitutional autonomy of Québec, applicable to government departments and bodies, in particular to counter the encroachments of the federal State on Québec's jurisdiction. Moreover, that Act sets out provisions regarding the territorial integrity of Québec, including the requirement for an owner to send the Minister a notice, in certain situations, concerning the owner's intention to transfer rights in an immovable

to a federal institution. Furthermore, it explicits Québec's participation in the appointment process for senators and Supreme Court judges.

The Act respecting the Conseil constitutionnel establishes a constitutional council, entrusted with giving opinions, when requested to do so by the Government or the National Assembly, relating to the interpretation of the Constitution of Québec or to the consequences, for Québec, of a federal initiative. That Act determines the manner in which the members of the Conseil are to be appointed and the duration of their term. It empowers the Office of the National Assembly to make the rules of ethics and professional conduct that are applicable to the members of the Conseil constitutionnel.

The bill amends the Constitution Act, 1867, in particular by withdrawing the sections dealing with the Legislative Council of Québec, by replacing the provision on the Legislature of Quebec by a provision on the Parliament of Québec and by adding three new provisions regarding the fundamental characteristics of Québec, which are: State laicity, the model for integration into the Québec nation and the civil law tradition.

The bill amends the preliminary provision of the Civil Code of Québec to specify that the Civil Code, in harmony with the Constitution of Québec, governs persons, relations between persons, and property.

The bill amends the Executive Power Act, in particular to add a provision providing that the Prime Minister designates a person the Prime Minister wishes to see hold the office of Officer of Québec.

The bill also amends the Charter of human rights and freedoms, in particular with respect to the interpretation of the rights and freedoms within the specific context of Québec and to the balance between human rights and freedoms and the collective rights of the Québec nation. It also provides that, in case of conflict between the exercise of the right to equality of women and men and the exercise of freedom of religion, the former prevails.

Furthermore, the bill amends the Code of Civil Procedure, in particular to provide a framework for applications for a stay of application of an Act passed by the Parliament of Québec and to specify that a court cannot, on its own initiative, seize itself of any matter concerning the constitutionality of a rule of law or direct the parties to so seize the court.

The bill updates the name and functions of the Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs in various Acts, as well as the functions of the Minister of Justice and of the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions. Also, in all legislation, the expressions "Lieutenant-Governor" and "Conseil exécutif" are replaced by "Officer of Québec" and "Conseil des ministres", respectively. It also adds the declarations provided for in the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec to the Charter of the French language, the Act respecting the laicity of the State and the Act respecting integration into the Québec nation.

Lastly, the bill contains consequential provisions and provisions necessary for its implementation.

LEGISLATION ENACTED BY THIS BILL:

– Constitution of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Constitution of Québec*);

– Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec*);

– Act respecting the Conseil constitutionnel (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Act respecting the Conseil constitutionnel*).

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

– Constitution Act, 1867;

– Civil Code of Québec;

– Act respecting the civil aspects of international and interprovincial child abduction (chapter A-23.01);

– Act respecting the National Assembly (chapter A-23.1);

– Act respecting the Centre de la francophonie des Amériques (chapter C-7.1);

– Charter of the French language (chapter C-11);

– Charter of human rights and freedoms (chapter C-12);

– Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-23.1);

– Code of Civil Procedure (chapter C-25.01);

– Professional Code (chapter C-26);

– Act respecting the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions (chapter D-9.1.1);

– Executive Power Act (chapter E-18);

– Act respecting integration into the Québec nation (chapter I-14.02);

– Interpretation Act (chapter I-16);

– Act respecting the laicity of the State (chapter L-0.3);

– Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (chapter M-19);

– Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil exécutif (chapter M-30);

– Act respecting labour standards (chapter N-1.1);

– Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act (chapter T-11.011);

– Courts of Justice Act (chapter T-16);

– Securities Act (chapter V-1.1).

Bill 1

QUÉBEC CONSTITUTION ACT, 2025

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART I

CONSTITUTION OF QUÉBEC

1. The Constitution of Québec, the text of which appears in this Part, is enacted.

"CONSTITUTION OF QUÉBEC

"AS Québec is a free national State, capable of assuming its destiny and ensuring its development;

"AS the Québec people, in the majority French-speaking, forms a nation rooted in its territory and united around its identity, culture, common language, distinct social values, heritage and specific history;

"AS the Abenaki, Algonquin, Attikamek, Cree, Innu, Micmac, Mohawk, Naskapi, Wendat, Wolastoqiyik and Inuit nations exist within Québec;

"AS Québec considers democracy to be a core value and has no attachment to the monarchical system;

"AS the parliamentary system of the State of Québec is based on the principle of responsible government;

"AS Québec has its own system for the protection of human rights and freedoms in which an individual's rights and freedoms are inseparable from those of others, the common good and the collective rights of the Québec nation;

"AS, in exercising its constitutional jurisdiction, the Québec State recognizes the existing ancestral and treaty rights of the Indigenous nations of Québec;

"AS the National Assembly recognizes the right for the First Nations and Inuit in Québec, descendants of the country's first inhabitants, to maintain and develop their language and culture of origin;

“AS the constitutional foundation of the State of Québec has been enriched over the years by the passage of several fundamental laws and as it wishes to continue to affirm its national and constitutional identity;

“AS the State of Québec intends to pursue that objective in a manner that is respectful of the institutions of the English-speaking community of Québec;

“AS it is incumbent on the Québec nation, through the Parliament of Québec, to enact the Constitution of Québec;

“**TITLE ONE**

“PRIMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION

“**1.** The Constitution of Québec is the law of laws.

“**2.** The Constitution of Québec has precedence over any inconsistent rule of law.

“**TITLE TWO**

“QUÉBEC NATION

“**CHAPTER I**

“ATTRIBUTES

“**3.** The Québec people is composed of all Quebecers.

The Québec people forms a nation.

“**4.** The territory of Québec is the historical homeland of the nation and constitutes its common heritage.

“**5.** French is the only common language of the nation.

It constitutes one of the foundations of the distinct identity and culture of the nation.

“**6.** The nation has its own institutions, including in the political, cultural, economic, educational and social spheres.

“**CHAPTER II**

“COLLECTIVE RIGHTS

“**7.** The Québec nation is the holder of intrinsic and inalienable collective rights.

Those rights are to be interpreted broadly. They contribute to the protection of human rights and freedoms.

"**8.** The nation has the right to protect and promote its existence as well as its distinct culture, language and social values.

"**9.** The nation has the right to live and develop in French.

"**10.** The nation has the right to freely develop and organize its institutions.

"**11.** The nation has the right to parliamentary, government and judicial institutions and to public services that are lay institutions and services, to the extent provided for by law.

"**12.** The nation has the right to protection of its civil law tradition legal system.

"**13.** The Québec people has, in fact and in law, the right to self-determination. It is the holder of the rights universally recognized under the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

"**14.** The Québec people has the inalienable right to freely decide the political system and legal status of Québec.

"**15.** When the Québec people is consulted by way of a referendum held under the law, the winning option is the option that obtains a majority of the valid votes cast, namely 50% of the valid votes cast plus one.

"**TITLE THREE**

"HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

"**16.** The system for the protection of human rights and freedoms provided for in sections 1 to 38 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms (chapter C-12) and the fundamental language rights referred to in sections 2 to 6.2 of the Charter of the French language (chapter C-11) form part of the Constitution of Québec.

The provisions of an Act that expressly provides, in accordance with section 52 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms or, regarding fundamental language rights, with section 88.16 of the Charter of the French language, that they apply despite those Charters are deemed to be compatible with the Constitution.

“**TITLE FOUR**

“NATIONAL STATE OF QUÉBEC

“**CHAPTER I**

“FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

“**17.** The State derives its legitimacy from the will of the people inhabiting its territory.

“**18.** The State is founded on the principles of democracy, parliamentary sovereignty, the rule of law and the separation of powers.

“**19.** The State protects the fundamental characteristics of Québec.

“**20.** The State ensures the protection of the common heritage of the Québec nation.

Water is a collective resource forming part of that common heritage.

“**21.** The only official language of Québec is French.

“**22.** The State is a lay State.

“**23.** The territory of Québec is indivisible. Its boundaries cannot be altered except with the consent of the National Assembly.

“**24.** The State exercises throughout the territory of Québec the prerogatives relating to its constitutional jurisdiction and to the Québec public domain.

“**25.** The State protects and ensures the cultural sovereignty of Québec.

It has the right and the capacity to act so as to preserve and promote the French language and Québec culture, including in the digital environment.

“**26.** Québec is a State of civil law tradition.

“**27.** The State sees to it that the interest of the child is protected and that the child’s recognized rights are respected.

“**28.** The State protects the equality of women and men.

“**29.** The State protects women’s freedom to have recourse to a voluntary termination of pregnancy.

“**30.** The integration model of the State is that for integration into the Québec nation, designated as “national integration”.

That integration model differs from Canadian multiculturalism.

“**31.** The national capital of the State is Ville de Québec.

“**32.** The flag of Québec is the *fleurdelisé*.

The motto of Québec is “*Je me souviens*”.

“**CHAPTER II**

“PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC

“**33.** The Parliament of Québec is composed of the National Assembly and the Officer of Québec.

“**34.** The Parliament exercises the legislative power.

“**35.** The Parliament is sovereign in the areas under its legislative jurisdiction.

“**36.** The Parliament may make laws in relation to the activities under its legislative jurisdiction, regardless of the technological means by which those activities are carried on.

“**37.** The National Assembly is composed of Members representing the Québec nation.

“**38.** The National Assembly sees to the protection and advancement of the Québec nation and to the general well-being of Quebecers.

“**39.** The National Assembly is the supreme and legitimate organ by which democratic principles are expressed and implemented in Québec.

“**40.** No other parliament or government may reduce the powers, authority, sovereignty or legitimacy of the National Assembly, or impose constraint on the democratic will of the Québec people to determine its own future.

“**41.** The National Assembly exercises constituent, legislative, deliberative and government oversight functions.

“**42.** In the exercise of its functions, the National Assembly enjoys the protection of parliamentary privilege.

“**43.** The National Assembly establishes its rules of procedure. It alone has authority to see that they are observed.

“**44.** A Member has the right to sit in the National Assembly after taking the oath to be loyal to the Québec nation and to respect and defend the Constitution of Québec, set out in Schedule I.

“**CHAPTER III**

“GOUVERNEMENT DU QUÉBEC

“**45.** The Gouvernement du Québec (the Government) is composed of the Conseil des ministres and the Officer of Québec.

“**46.** The Government exercises the executive power.

It ensures that laws are executed and that their uniformity and integrality are maintained throughout the territory of Québec.

“**47.** The Prime Minister is the head of the Government. The Prime Minister presides over the Conseil des ministres.

“**48.** The Government sees to it that the Constitution of Québec is respected.

It works toward the development and full exercise of the nation’s collective rights.

“**49.** The Government sees to the interests of Québec and to the protection of its unique character, and sees to it that the territorial integrity and autonomy of Québec are maintained and respected.

“**50.** The Government actively supports the growth of francophone and Acadian communities.

“**CHAPTER IV**

“COURTS OF JUSTICE

“**51.** The courts of Québec exercise the judicial power.

“**52.** The courts must be independent and impartial.

“**53.** The courts exercise their functions with due regard for democracy, parliamentary sovereignty, the rule of law and the separation of powers.

“**54.** It is the mission of the courts, within the scope of their jurisdiction, to adjudicate the disputes brought before them in accordance with the applicable rules of law.

“**55.** The Constitution of Québec, first, and the laws of the Parliament of Québec constitute the primary source of Québec law.

When interpreting a text of law, the courts must give it a meaning that is consistent with the intention of the legislator.

“**56.** The courts exercise their functions in such a manner as to maintain public trust in the administration of justice, to ensure that justice is rendered with promptness and diligence, and to meet the interests and needs of individuals before the courts.

“**TITLE FIVE**

“EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

“**57.** The State of Québec is competent to represent itself, make commitments, bind itself and act abroad.

“**58.** Only the State of Québec may bind Québec to another State.

“**TITLE SIX**

“FINAL PROVISIONS

“**59.** The Conseil constitutionnel gives its opinion on the interpretation of the Constitution of Québec when requested to do so by the Government or the National Assembly.

“**60.** For the purposes of section 2, the Constitution of Québec prevails in particular over any Act containing a primacy provision, despite any condition prescribed in that provision.

“**61.** The Constitution of Québec protects the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec.

“**62.** The Constitution of Québec comes into force on 24 June 2026 or on an earlier date determined by the Government, except section 59, which comes into force on the date determined by the Government.

“SCHEDULE I
(*Section 44*)

MEMBERS’ OATH

I, (*name of the Member*), declare under oath that I will be loyal to the Québec nation and that I will perform the duties of Member honestly and justly with respect for and in defence of the Constitution of Québec.”

PART II

ACT RESPECTING THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY OF QUÉBEC

2. The Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec, the text of which appears in this Part, is enacted.

"ACT RESPECTING THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY OF QUÉBEC

"AS Québec's political and institutional existence significantly predates that of the Canadian federal union;

"AS Québec participated in founding the Canadian federal union of 1867 and developing a federative pact that would guarantee it the rights and autonomy necessary to ensure its destiny and its development according to its distinct characteristics, in particular its language and culture;

"AS the distinct character of Québec had already been recognized at the time of the founding of the Canadian federal union, in particular since the passage of the Quebec Act, 1774;

"AS the Canadian federal union constitutes an association of autonomous States founded on the sharing of the state function and state jurisdiction between two orders of government that are equal and not subordinate to one another;

"AS that union allows, in keeping with the principle of asymmetry, for federative relations to be shaped taking into account the fundamental characteristics of Québec and the collective rights of the Québec nation;

"AS the exclusion of Québec from the scope of section 94 of the Constitution Act, 1867 is a demonstration of that asymmetry, reflects the specific character of Québec, and shows the importance of its legislative jurisdiction with respect to private law for ensuring its advancement and continued existence as a nation;

"AS the Constitution Act, 1982 was passed despite the formal opposition of Québec, which has always refused to adhere to it;

"AS the Constitution Act, 1982 violates the autonomy of the Québec nation and the sovereignty of the Parliament of Québec;

"AS Québec is fully sovereign in the exercise of its constitutional jurisdiction, and as the encroachments of the federal State on that jurisdiction violate the principle of equality and non-subordination of the orders of government;

“**CHAPTER I**

“OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

“**1.** The purpose of this Act is to preserve and increase the constitutional autonomy of Québec by affirming the sovereignty of the Parliament of Québec and by ensuring coordinated government action in the defence of Québec’s higher interests, its territorial integrity and its representation within the common institutions of the Canadian federal union.

Constitutional autonomy consists in Québec’s ability to exercise all of its powers, carry out all related responsibilities and freely make all the choices arising from them, without subordination to the federal State and without the latter encroaching on Québec’s constitutional jurisdiction.

“**2.** The State of Québec has the duty to preserve and increase the constitutional autonomy of Québec and to fully exercise Québec’s constitutional jurisdiction.

Respect for the constitutional autonomy of Québec is fundamental to ensuring the existence and advancement of the Québec nation, guaranteeing the preservation of its national identity and enabling it to pursue collective objectives that are specific to it.

“**3.** The State of Québec participates freely in the Canadian federal union and contributes to its evolution while affirming within the union its distinct character and taking all means to fully exercise its constitutional jurisdiction.

“**4.** This Act applies to the Government and its departments, to the bodies referred to in Schedule I and to the bodies or classes of bodies that the Government determines.

“**CHAPTER II**

“PARLIAMENTARY ACTION

“**5.** The Parliament of Québec may declare in an Act that the Act or a provision of the Act protects the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec.

No body may, by means of sums from the Consolidated Revenue Fund or other sums derived from levies, taxes, duties or penalties collected under an Act of Québec, contest the operability, constitutionality or validity of a provision regarding which a declaration is made under the first paragraph or otherwise contribute to such a contestation, except where the contestation is made in the context of the legal representation of or legal assistance to a natural person, where the court orders the State to pay a lawyer’s fees or where the contestation is invoked as a defence in a civil, administrative or penal case.

The members or directors of a body having approved the allocation of a sum contrary to this section are held solidarily liable for the restitution of the sum to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

"**6.** On the last Friday of September each year, the National Assembly holds a special sitting reserved exclusively for the examination of motions for constitutional amendments.

A motion by the Minister concerning Québec's constitutional issues may also be debated during that sitting.

Motions for constitutional amendments are debated before the motion concerning Québec's constitutional issues, if applicable, in the chronological order in which they are placed on the Order Paper. With the permission of its mover, the debate on a motion may be prorogued.

Each motion is immediately put to a vote once the debate is concluded.

"**7.** The National Assembly holds a special sitting on the third Monday after each federal general election is called in order to debate a motion by the Minister presenting Québec's demands regarding constitutional matters to the federal political parties.

The motion is immediately put to a vote once the debate is concluded.

"**8.** When holding the sittings referred to in sections 6 and 7, the National Assembly meets from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with a recess from 12:00 noon to 1:40 p.m.; there are no routine proceedings.

The Assembly may, with the unanimous consent of its members, derogate from the hours of suspension and adjournment of the sitting.

The National Assembly holds no sitting if no motion is placed on the Order Paper at least three days before the beginning of the scheduled special sitting.

"**9.** The Parliament of Québec may, if it considers it advisable, include a parliamentary sovereignty provision, on its own initiative or in response to a judicial decision, in any Act it enacts, without any requirement to contextualize or justify the provision.

No application for judicial review, based on a right or freedom referred to in such a parliamentary sovereignty provision, may be brought in order to have the Act or provision referred to in the parliamentary sovereignty provision declared inoperative.

"**10.** Any Member of the National Assembly may, during the six months preceding the expiry of a parliamentary sovereignty provision included in an Act of Québec, place on the Order Paper a motion on the advisability of renewing the provision.

Only one motion per parliamentary sovereignty provision may be placed on the Order Paper during that period.

In the case of prorogation or dissolution of the National Assembly before the motion is put to a vote, the motion may again be placed on the Order Paper after the resumption of proceedings provided the provision concerned has not expired.

"**11.** The motion referred to in section 10 is subject to a five-hour debate, which must not begin until five days after the motion is placed on the Order Paper. The debate is business having precedence and only has precedence over want of confidence motions; it suspends committee proceedings, unless the National Assembly decides otherwise by unanimous consent of its members.

The motion is immediately put to a vote once the debate is concluded.

"**CHAPTER III**

"GOVERNMENT ACTION

"**12.** The Minister is the adviser to the Gouvernement du Québec (the Government) with respect to institutional and constitutional policies. The Minister sees to it that the constitutional interests of Québec are respected, sees to the integrity of its institutions and ensures that the action of the government departments and bodies is aligned with those interests.

In that capacity, the Minister directs any negotiation of a constitutional nature on behalf of the Government and advises it on any matter relating to the powers and prerogatives of Québec's institutions, its political and constitutional status and the common institutions of the Canadian federal union.

"**13.** The Minister submits to the Government for approval a ten-year State strategy on the constitutional autonomy of Québec.

The strategy sets out the principles and objectives intended to ensure coherence of government actions and accountability of government departments and bodies regarding the constitutional autonomy of Québec. The objectives pertain mainly to the full exercise of Québec's constitutional jurisdiction, the promotion of its higher interests and the protection of its unique character. The strategy also establishes Québec's priorities in its relations with the other federative partners and identifies the measures that could encourage the other federated states to participate in the defence and promotion of common interests.

The Minister tables the approved strategy in the National Assembly and publishes it by any means the Minister considers appropriate.

"**14.** In negotiating an agreement with another government in Canada, one of its departments or government agencies, or a federal public agency, within the meaning of section 3.6.2 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil

exécutif (chapter M-30), government departments and bodies must see to the protection and promotion of

(1) the following fundamental characteristics of Québec: the French language, the civil law tradition, State laicity and the model for integration into the Québec nation;

(2) the collective rights of the Québec nation;

(3) the common heritage of the Québec nation, including Québec culture;

(4) the integrity of the territory of Québec and the full application of Québec laws;

(5) the autonomy and constitutional jurisdiction of Québec;

(6) the historical claims of Québec; and

(7) French within the Canadian federal union.

"**15.** The Government applies the principle of asymmetry in the context of its action within the Canadian federal union in order to shape federative relations taking into account the elements listed in section 14.

The Government promotes arrangements adapted to the specific character of Québec, in particular by prompting the federal State to use legislative and administrative mechanisms that enable Québec to fully exercise its constitutional jurisdiction.

"**16.** The Minister may issue directives to government departments and bodies relating to usage and practice in the conduct of Canadian intergovernmental relations.

"**17.** The Government may issue a directive to all or any of its departments and bodies regarding the preservation of the constitutional autonomy of Québec following a federal initiative that causes the federal State to intrude into an area under the constitutional jurisdiction of Québec, affects an element listed in section 14 or causes prejudice to Québec, in any way.

In the directive, the Government may order the following:

(1) to refuse any sum transferred by a federal institution in connection with the initiative in question;

(2) to suspend or resiliate any agreement with a federal institution in connection with the initiative in question or not to enter into such an agreement;

(3) not to attend, participate in or contribute to any communication or policy development activity of the federal government or of a federal institution, in connection with the initiative in question;

(4) not to participate in federal parliamentary proceedings;

(5) not to participate in the drawing up of federal regulations; or

(6) any other conduct it considers appropriate.

The directive applies for a period determined by the Government and may be renewed. It is published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* as soon as possible.

The person who exercises the highest administrative authority within the department or body concerned takes the means necessary to ensure that the directive is complied with. That function may be delegated to a person within the same organization.

For the purposes of this Act, federal institutions are the federal government, one of its departments or government agencies, or a federal public agency, within the meaning of section 3.6.2 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil exécutif (chapter M-30).

"**CHAPTER IV**

"TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF QUÉBEC

"**18.** To allow the State of Québec to govern land use planning in its territory according to its needs and priorities and ensure consistent management of the lands and immovables in the domain of the State or of the immovables belonging to a government agency, public agency, municipal body or school body, within the meaning of section 3.6.2 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil exécutif (chapter M-30), any agreement concerning the transfer of a right relating to such land or such an immovable to a federal institution must be authorized or approved in accordance with subdivision 2 of Division II of that Act.

"**19.** No owner of an immovable situated in Québec, other than an immovable referred to in section 18, may, in the cases prescribed by government regulation, sell that immovable to a federal institution without having notified a written notice to the Minister in the time and according to the conditions prescribed by regulation.

In the case where the terms of the sale are modified after the notice referred to in the first paragraph is sent, a new notice must be sent to the Minister.

"**20.** The immovable to which the notice under section 19 relates may be acquired, by preference over the federal institution and on the same terms, by an interested minister or body from among those designated by government regulation.

To exercise that right of pre-emption, the interested minister or body must, after consultation with the other designated ministers and bodies, notify the owner of the immovable, in writing and within the time specified by government regulation, of the minister's or body's intention to acquire the immovable. The regulation may also determine the conditions applicable to that notice of intention.

"**21.** An instrument entered into in contravention of sections 19 or 20 is absolutely null.

"**CHAPTER V**

"REPRESENTATION OF QUÉBEC

"**22.** The State of Québec sees that it is adequately represented within the common institutions of the Canadian federal union so that its specific character and distinct social values are taken into account.

The House of Commons, the Senate and the Supreme Court of Canada are common institutions of the Canadian federal union.

"**23.** Where a seat reserved for Québec's representation in the Senate becomes vacant, the Prime Minister, on the recommendation of the Minister, proposes a candidate for that seat to the federal Prime Minister.

The Minister may call on an advisory committee on the selection of senators representing Québec to recommend candidates to the Prime Minister.

If the candidate proposed by the Prime Minister was not selected, the Prime Minister must inform the National Assembly not later than one month after the appointment, without revealing the proposed person's identity.

"**24.** Where a position of judge representing Québec on the Supreme Court of Canada becomes vacant, the Prime Minister, on the recommendation of the Minister of Justice, proposes a candidate for that position to the federal Prime Minister.

The Minister of Justice may call on an advisory committee on the selection of judges representing Québec on the Supreme Court of Canada to recommend candidates to the Prime Minister.

If the candidate proposed by the Prime Minister was not selected, the Prime Minister must inform the National Assembly not later than one month after the appointment, without revealing the proposed person's identity.

“**CHAPTER VI**

“INTERNATIONAL ACTION

“**25.** The Government may declare that Québec is not bound by an international commitment or international agreement entered into by the federal government and pertaining to a matter under Québec’s jurisdiction where the Government considers that its participation in the negotiation of the commitment or agreement was insufficient.

“**26.** The State of Québec participates in the development of solidarity and cooperation between the States and peoples of La Francophonie.

“**CHAPTER VII**

“MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

“**27.** The Minister may request the Auditor General to conduct an audit or an investigation to assess whether sums have been allocated contrary to section 5.

The Minister tables the Auditor General’s report in the National Assembly within three days after receiving it or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within three days after resumption.

Sections 21 to 34 and 47 to 54 of the Auditor General Act (chapter V-5.01) apply to the audits and investigations referred to in this section, with the necessary modifications.

“**28.** The provisions of the second and third paragraphs of section 5 of this Act do not apply to a contestation of the operability, constitutionality or validity of a provision of the Charter of the French language (chapter C-11), the Act respecting integration into the Québec nation (chapter I-14.02) or the Act respecting the laicity of the State (chapter L-0.3) that is in progress on (*insert the date that precedes the date of assent to this Act*).

“**29.** The Minister must, before (*insert the date that is 18 months after the date of assent to this Act*), submit to the Government the first ten-year State strategy on the constitutional autonomy of Québec.

“**30.** This Act protects the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec.

“**31.** The Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs is responsible for the administration of this Act.

"**32.** The provisions of this Act come into force on (*insert the date of assent to this Act*), except those of sections 19 to 21, which come into force on the date of coming into force of the first regulation made under section 19, and those of sections 23 and 24, which come into force on the date or dates determined by the Government.

"SCHEDULE I
(*Section 4*)

BODIES SUBJECT TO THIS ACT

– the following persons designated by the National Assembly and bodies a majority of whose members are appointed by the National Assembly:

(1) the Comité de surveillance des activités de l'Unité permanente anticorruption;

(2) the Commissaire à l'éthique et à la déontologie;

(3) the Commissaire à la langue française;

(4) the Commissaire à la lutte contre la corruption;

(5) the Commissaire au bien-être et aux droits des enfants;

(6) the Commissaire au lobbyisme;

(7) the Commission d'accès à l'information;

(8) the Commission de la fonction publique;

(9) the Commission de la représentation;

(10) the Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse;

(11) the Directeur général des élections;

(12) the Protecteur du citoyen;

(13) the Vérificateur général;

– the following bodies a majority of whose members or directors are appointed by the Government or by a minister:

(1) the Agence du revenu du Québec;

(2) the Autorité des marchés financiers;

(3) Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec;

(4) the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement;

(5) the Bureau des coroners;

(6) the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec;

(7) the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales;

(8) the Centre de la francophonie des Amériques;

(9) the Comité consultatif sur l'accessibilité financière aux études;

(10) the Comité de la rémunération des juges;

(11) the Comité de la rémunération des procureurs aux poursuites criminelles et pénales;

(12) the Comité provincial pour la prestation des services de santé et des services sociaux en langue anglaise;

(13) the Commissaire à la déontologie policière;

(14) the Commissaire à la santé et au bien-être;

(15) the Commission consultative de l'enseignement privé;

(16) the Commission d'évaluation de l'enseignement collégial;

(17) the Commission de l'éducation en langue anglaise;

(18) the Commission de l'éthique en science et en technologie;

(19) the Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec;

(20) the Commission de la construction du Québec;

(21) the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec;

(22) the Commission de toponymie;

(23) the Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail;

(24) the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail;

(25) the Commission des services juridiques;

(26) the Commission des transports du Québec;

(27) the Commission municipale du Québec;

(28) the Commission québécoise des libérations conditionnelles;

(29) the Commission sur les soins de fin de vie;

(30) the Conseil de l'enseignement supérieur;

(31) the Conseil de gestion de l'assurance parentale;

(32) the Conseil de la justice administrative;

(33) the Conseil de la magistrature;

(34) the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec;

(35) the Conseil des pratiques correctionnelles du Québec;

(36) the Conseil du patrimoine culturel du Québec;

(37) the Conseil du statut de la femme;

(38) the Conseil sur les services policiers du Québec;

(39) the Conservatoire de musique et d'art dramatique du Québec;

(40) the Curateur public;

(41) the École nationale de police du Québec;

(42) the École nationale des pompiers du Québec;

(43) the Fondation de la faune du Québec;

(44) the Fonds d'aide aux actions collectives;

(45) the Fonds de recherche du Québec;

(46) Héma-Québec;

(47) the Institut de la statistique du Québec;

(48) the Institut de technologie agroalimentaire du Québec;

(49) the Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec;

(50) the Institut national d'excellence en éducation;

(51) the Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux;

(52) the Institut national de santé publique du Québec;

(53) the Institut national des mines;

(54) La Financière agricole du Québec;

(55) Mobilité Infra Québec;

(56) the Musée d'Art contemporain de Montréal;

(57) the Musée de la Civilisation;

(58) the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec;

(59) the Musée national de l'histoire du Québec;

(60) the Office de la protection du consommateur;

(61) the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec;

(62) the Office des professions du Québec;

(63) the Office québécois de la langue française;

(64) the Office Québec-Monde pour la jeunesse;

(65) the Protecteur de l'intégrité en loisir et en sport;

(66) the Protecteur national de l'élève;

(67) the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec;

(68) the Régie de l'énergie;

(69) the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux;

(70) the Régie des marchés agricoles et alimentaires du Québec;

(71) the Régie du bâtiment du Québec;

(72) Retraite Québec;

(73) Santé Québec;

(74) the Société d'habitation du Québec;

(75) the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles;

(76) the Société de développement et de mise en valeur du Parc olympique;

(77) the Société de financement des infrastructures locales du Québec;

(78) the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec;

(79) the Société de la Place des Arts de Montréal;

(80) the Société de télédiffusion du Québec;

(81) the Société du Centre des congrès de Québec;

(82) the Société du Grand Théâtre de Québec;

(83) the Société du Palais des congrès de Montréal;

(84) the Société québécoise d'information juridique;

(85) the Société québécoise de récupération et de recyclage;

(86) Urgences-santé;

– the following enterprises whose capital stock forms part of the domain of the State:

(1) Capital Financière agricole inc.;

(2) Gestion Sodémex inc.;

(3) Hydro-Québec;

(4) Investissement Québec;

(5) the Société de développement de la Baie James;

(6) the Société des alcools du Québec;

(7) the Société des établissements de plein air du Québec;

(8) the Société des loteries du Québec;

(9) the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour;

(10) the Société du Plan Nord;

(11) the Société ferroviaire et portuaire de Pointe-Noire S.E.C.;

(12) the Société portuaire du Bas-Saint-Laurent et de la Gaspésie inc.;

(13) the Société québécoise du cannabis;

(14) the Société québécoise des infrastructures;

(15) the Société des Traversiers du Québec;

– the Autorité des marchés publics;

– the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes;

– school service centres and the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal;

– regional legal aid centres;

– general and vocational colleges;

– public inquiry commissions constituted under the Act respecting public inquiry commissions (chapter C-37);

– health and social services institutions other than those of Santé Québec, the health and social services network insurance manager, and the health communication centres covered by the Act respecting pre-hospital emergency services (chapter S-6.2);

– educational institutions at the university level;

– municipalities, except the municipalities governed by the Cree Villages and the Naskapi Village Act (chapter V-5.1) or the Act respecting Northern villages and the Kativik Regional Government (chapter V-6.1), public transit authorities, metropolitan communities, intermunicipal boards, municipal and regional housing bureaus, bodies under the authority of a municipality and taking part in the administration of its territory, and the Autorité régionale de transport métropolitain;

– professional orders;

– the Organisme d'autoréglementation du courtage immobilier du Québec;

– the Office de la sécurité économique des chasseurs cris;

– the Réseau de transport métropolitain;

– the Sûreté du Québec."

PART III

ACT RESPECTING THE CONSEIL CONSTITUTIONNEL

3. The Act respecting the Conseil constitutionnel, the text of which appears in this Part, is enacted.

“ACT RESPECTING THE CONSEIL CONSTITUTIONNEL

“**CHAPTER I**

“ESTABLISHMENT AND MANDATE

“**1.** The Conseil constitutionnel is hereby established.

“**2.** The mandate of the Conseil is to give, when requested by the Government or the National Assembly, a written opinion on the interpretation of the Constitution of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Constitution of Québec*) or on the consequences, for Québec, of a federal initiative.

“**CHAPTER II**

“OPINIONS

“**3.** The Conseil must, in any opinion concerning a federal initiative, take into consideration

(1) the following fundamental characteristics of Québec: the French language, the civil law tradition, State laicity and the model for integration into the Québec nation;

(2) the collective rights of the Québec nation;

(3) the common heritage of the Québec nation, including Québec culture;

(4) the integrity of the territory of Québec and the full application of Québec laws;

(5) the constitutional autonomy and jurisdiction of Québec;

(6) the historical claims of Québec;

(7) the economy of Québec; and

(8) any other element it considers relevant.

“**4.** The Conseil renders its opinions within 90 days after receiving the request.

The opinions are rendered by a majority of the members of the Conseil and without dissenting reasons.

“**5.** The Conseil’s opinions are tabled in the National Assembly and published on the latter’s website.

“**CHAPTER III**

“COMPOSITION

“**6.** The Conseil is composed of five members, including a chair. They are appointed by the National Assembly, on a motion by the Prime Minister and with the approval of two-thirds of the Members of the Assembly.

The Prime Minister proposes the members on the recommendation of the Minister and the Minister of Justice and on the basis of their notable sensitivity and interest regarding the protection of the collective rights of the Québec nation as well as of the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec.

“**7.** The members of the Conseil are appointed for a term of up to six years.

The duration of the members’ term of office must be such that two of the members are replaced every two years, the chair counting for two members.

A member may not serve two consecutive terms.

“**8.** At the expiry of their term of office, the members of the Conseil remain in office until they are replaced.

“**9.** Before taking office, the members of the Conseil take the oath set out in Schedule I before the President of the National Assembly.

“**10.** The members of the Conseil receive no remuneration, except in the cases and on the conditions determined by the Office of the National Assembly.

“**11.** The Office of the National Assembly, after consultation with the Ethics Commissioner, establishes the rules of ethics and professional conduct applicable to Conseil members.

“**12.** The office of minister, the office of Member of the National Assembly and any other office determined by the Office of the National Assembly in accordance with section 10 are incompatible with that of member of the Conseil.

“**13.** A member of the Conseil may resign by sending a written notice to the President of the National Assembly; no member may be dismissed except by a resolution approved by two-thirds of the members of the National Assembly.

“**14.** No judicial proceedings may be brought against a member of the Conseil for an act or omission in good faith in the exercise of their functions.

“**CHAPTER IV**

“ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION

“**15.** If the chair is absent or unable to act, or if the office of chair is vacant, the Government may designate one of the other members of the Conseil to act as interim chair.

“**16.** The Conseil may adopt internal by-laws.

“**17.** Despite section 35 of the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information (chapter A-2.1), the deliberations briefs of the Conseil must not be disclosed until the expiry of 25 years from their date.

“**18.** The Secretary General of the National Assembly manages the Conseil’s day to day business, in particular by providing the Conseil with the resources necessary for the carrying out of its mandates.

The Conseil’s budgetary estimates must be set out separately in the National Assembly’s budget.

“**CHAPTER V**

“FINAL PROVISIONS

“**19.** The provisions of the Financial Administration Act (chapter A-6.001), the Public Administration Act (chapter A-6.01) and the Act respecting contracting by public bodies (chapter C-65.1) applicable to the National Assembly apply in the same manner to the Conseil, as if it were part of the National Assembly.

For the purposes of the Act respecting Access to documents held by public bodies and the Protection of personal information (chapter A-2.1), the Secretary General of the National Assembly is considered to be the person exercising the highest authority within the Conseil, within the meaning of section 8 of that Act, and the committee on access to information and the protection of personal information within the Assembly, within the meaning of section 8.1 of that Act, is considered to be that of the Conseil.

“**20.** The Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs is responsible for the administration of this Act.

“**21.** The provisions of this Act come into force on the date or dates to be determined by the Government.

"SCHEDULE I
(*Section 9*)

OATH

I, (*name of the member*), declare under oath that I will be loyal to the Québec nation and that I will perform my duties as member of the Conseil constitutionnel honestly and with integrity."

PART IV

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION ACT, 1867

4. Section 63 of the Constitution Act, 1867 is amended by striking out "and of Quebec" and ", with in Quebec the Speaker of the Legislative Council and the Solicitor General".

5. Section 71 of the Act is replaced by the following section:

"**71Q.1.** The Parliament of Québec shall be composed of the National Assembly and the Officer of Québec."

6. Sections 72 to 80 of the Act are repealed.

7. Section 83 of the Act is amended by striking out "or of Quebec", "or in Quebec", both occurrences of "respective" and "and in Quebec Solicitor General,".

8. Section 84 of the Act is amended by replacing "Legislatures of Ontario and Quebec respectively otherwise provide", "those Provinces respectively" and "respective Legislative Assemblies of Ontario and Quebec" in the first paragraph by "Legislature of Ontario otherwise provides", "that Province" and "Legislative Assembly of Ontario", respectively.

9. Section 85 of the Act is amended by striking out "and every Legislative Assembly of Quebec", "either" and "or the Legislative Assembly of Quebec".

10. The Act is amended by inserting the following sections after section 90Q.2:

"**90Q.3.** Québec is a lay State.

"**90Q.4.** The integration model of the State of Québec is that for integration into the Québec nation, designated as "national integration".

"**90Q.5.** Québec is a State of civil law tradition."

11. Section 128 of the Act is amended by striking out "and every Member of the Legislative Council of Quebec".

PART V

OTHER AMENDMENTS

CIVIL CODE OF QUÉBEC

12. The preliminary provision of the Civil Code of Québec is amended by inserting "the Constitution of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Constitution of Québec*)," after "in harmony with" in the first paragraph.

ACT RESPECTING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

13. Section 2 of the Act respecting the National Assembly (chapter A-23.1) is amended, in the first paragraph,

(1) by replacing "the Lieutenant-Governor" by "the Officer of Québec";

(2) by adding the following sentence at the end: "The Officer of Québec assumes all the powers conferred on the Lieutenant-Governor."

14. Section 15 of the Act is repealed.

15. Schedule I to the Act is repealed.

ACT RESPECTING THE CENTRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE DES AMÉRIQUES

16. Section 8 of the Act respecting the Centre de la francophonie des Amériques (chapter C-7.1) is amended by striking out "responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and for Francophones within Canada" in subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the first paragraph.

17. Section 20 of the Act is amended by striking out "responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and for Francophones within Canada" in paragraph 2.

18. Section 44 of the Act is amended by replacing "Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and for Francophones within Canada" by "minister designated by the Government".

CHARTER OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE

19. The Charter of the French language (chapter C-11) is amended by inserting the following section after section 214:

"**215.** This Act protects the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec."

20. Section 9.1 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms (chapter C-12) is amended by inserting "the equality of women and men," and ", the collective rights of the Québec nation" after "democratic values," and "order", respectively, in the first paragraph.

21. The Charter is amended by inserting the following section after section 9.1:

"**9.2.** In case of conflict between the exercise of the right to equality of women and men and the exercise of freedom of religion, the former prevails."

22. The Charter is amended by inserting the following section after section 39.1:

"**39.2.** Every person whose condition requires it has the right to receive end-of-life care, subject to the specific requirements established by the Act respecting end-of-life care (chapter S-32.0001)."

23. Section 50 of the Charter is amended by inserting "or of a collective right of the Québec nation under the Constitution of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Constitution of Québec*)" after "Charter of the French language (chapter C-11)" in the second paragraph.

24. The Charter is amended by inserting the following sections after section 51:

"**51.1.** The Charter shall be interpreted in harmony with the Constitution of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Constitution of Québec*), the Civil Code, the protection of the French language, the general principles of law, State laicity and the model for integration into the Québec nation.

"**51.2.** Despite the use of similar terms, the Charter shall be interpreted separately from the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (Part I of Schedule B to the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom)."

25. The Charter is amended by inserting the following section after section 57:

"**57.1.** In carrying out its mission, the commission shall ensure a balance between human rights and freedoms and the collective rights of the Québec nation."

CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

26. Section 42 of the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-23.1) is amended by replacing "Cabinet Minister but is authorized to sit in the Cabinet is considered a Cabinet Minister" by "Cabinet Minister but is authorized to sit on the Conseil des ministres is considered a Cabinet Minister".

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

27. Article 30 of the Code of Civil Procedure (chapter C-25.01) is amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph: "The same applies to an appeal by the Attorney General from a judicial review judgment relating to the review of a decision or judgment ruling on the special rights of the State."

28. Article 31 of the Code is amended by inserting "or, by the Attorney General, if it orders a stay of the application of an Act of the Parliament of Québec, of a regulation made under such an Act, of a government or ministerial order or of any other rule of law" at the end of the first paragraph.

29. Article 76 of the Code is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"The court cannot, on its own initiative, send such notice or direct a party to raise such an issue or seek such reparation."

30. Article 77 of the Code is amended by inserting the following paragraph after the first paragraph:

"The contentions that the person intends to assert must be based on detailed facts allowing the Attorney General to circumscribe the evidence required and the arguments to put forward to respond to them."

31. The Code is amended by inserting the following article after article 79:

"**79.1.** In dealing with an application for a stay of application of an Act of the Parliament of Québec, of a regulation made under such an Act, of a government or ministerial order or of any other rule of law whose operability, constitutionality or validity is contested, the court renders its decision with caution and deference toward the authority that passed or made it, taking into account the presumption of constitutionality of laws. The court is not to rule on the advisability or effectiveness of the contested rule of law.

Such a stay may be granted only if the person applying for it demonstrates that

(1) they show an appearance of right;

(2) they would suffer actual, serious and irreparable prejudice if the stay were not granted; and

(3) public interest clearly requires, based on the balance of convenience, that the stay be granted.

The actual, serious and irreparable prejudice must be shown by precise and detailed evidence. Prejudice based on hypotheses or speculation is not actual, serious and irreparable prejudice.

In assessing the balance of convenience, it is presumed that the contested rule of law was passed in the public interest and that the public interest is served by maintaining the application of that rule during the proceeding. The State is not required to demonstrate that the rule benefits the public."

ACT RESPECTING THE DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL AND PENAL PROSECUTIONS

32. Section 22 of the Act respecting the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions (chapter D-9.1.1) is amended by inserting "as well as at promoting the application of Québec laws" at the end of the first paragraph.

EXECUTIVE POWER ACT

33. Section 1 of the Executive Power Act (chapter E-18) is amended

(1) by striking out "of the Dominion";

(2) by replacing "the Lieutenant-Governor" by "the Officer".

34. The Act is amended by inserting the following division after section 2:

"**DIVISION I.0.1**

"DESIGNATION OF THE OFFICER OF QUÉBEC

"**2.1.** The Prime Minister shall designate a person the Prime Minister wishes to see hold the office of Officer of Québec."

35. Section 4 of the Act is amended

(1) in the first paragraph,

(*a*) by replacing "Conseil exécutif" in the introductory clause by "Conseil des ministres";

(*b*) by adding the following subparagraph at the end:

"(41) a Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs.";

(2) by replacing "Conseil exécutif" in the second paragraph by "Conseil des ministres".

36. Section 10 of the Act is amended

(1) by replacing "Conseil exécutif" in the first paragraph by "Conseil des ministres";

(2) by replacing "of the Conseil" in the second paragraph by "of the Ministère du Conseil exécutif";

(3) by replacing both occurrences of "Conseil exécutif" in the fourth paragraph by "Conseil des ministres".

ACT RESPECTING INTEGRATION INTO THE QUÉBEC NATION

37. The Act respecting integration into the Québec nation (chapter I-14.02) is amended by inserting the following section after section 29:

"**29.1.** This Act protects the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec."

INTERPRETATION ACT

38. The Interpretation Act (chapter I-16) is amended by inserting the following sections after section 40.3:

"**40.4.** Acts shall be construed in compliance with the civil law tradition.

"**40.5.** Acts shall be construed in a manner consistent with the objective of preserving and enhancing the model for integration into the Québec nation."

39. The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 41.4:

"**41.5.** When a court is seized of a contestation based on both a right or freedom guaranteed by the Charter of human rights and freedoms (chapter C-12) and a right or freedom guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and

Freedoms (Part I of Schedule B to the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom), it must conduct a separate analysis based on each of those Charters."

40. Section 61 of the Act is amended

(1) by replacing "and the words "Lieutenant-Governor", the Lieutenant-Governor" in paragraph 2 by "and the words "Officer of Québec", the Officer";

(2) by replacing "Lieutenant-Governor in Council", the Lieutenant-Governor" and "Conseil exécutif du Québec" in paragraph 3 by "Officer of Québec in Council", the Officer of Québec" and "Conseil des ministres", respectively;

(3) by striking out "the words "Dominion" and "Canada", the Dominion of Canada;" in paragraph 4;

(4) by replacing "Federal Parliament" in paragraph 8 by "federal parliament" and both occurrences of "Federal" in paragraph 10 by "federal";

(5) by replacing "the Lieutenant-Governor and the Conseil exécutif du Québec" in paragraph 12 by "the Officer of Québec and the Conseil des ministres".

ACT RESPECTING THE LAICITY OF THE STATE

41. The Act respecting the laicity of the State (chapter L-0.3) is amended by inserting the following section after section 34:

"**34.1.** This Act protects the Québec nation as well as the constitutional autonomy and fundamental characteristics of Québec."

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE LA JUSTICE

42. Section 4 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (chapter M-19) is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"In the exercise of his responsibilities, the Attorney General ensures the conduct of the judicial affairs relating to constitutional matters and sees to affirming the full scope of Québec's legislative jurisdiction and to defending the integrity of that jurisdiction. The Attorney General acts before the courts to preserve the constitutional interests of Québec and defend the operability, constitutionality and validity of the Acts of the Parliament of Québec."

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DU CONSEIL EXÉCUTIF

43. Section 3.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil exécutif (chapter M-30) is amended by replacing "Prime Minister or the Minister designated by the Government in accordance with section 9 of the Executive Power Act (chapter E-18)" by "Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs".

44. Section 3.5 of the Act is amended by inserting the following paragraph after the first paragraph:

"The Minister also has the responsibilities set out in the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec*)."

45. The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 3.12.1:

"**3.12.2.** The Government may determine the conditions on which an agreement may be entered into concerning the transfer to the federal government or one of its departments or government agencies, or to a federal public agency of a right relating to land or an immovable in the domain of the State or to an immovable belonging to a government agency, a public agency, a municipal body or a school body."

LOBBYING TRANSPARENCY AND ETHICS ACT

46. Section 28 of the Lobbying Transparency and Ethics Act (chapter T-11.011) is amended by replacing "Executive Council" and "in Cabinet" in subparagraph 1 of the second paragraph by "Conseil des ministres" and "on the Conseil des ministres", respectively.

47. Section 29 of the Act is amended by replacing "Executive Council" and "in Cabinet" in subparagraph 1 of the second paragraph by "Conseil des ministres" and "on the Conseil des ministres", respectively.

COURTS OF JUSTICE ACT

48. The Courts of Justice Act (chapter T-16) is amended by inserting the following section after section 2:

"**2.1.** The candidates recommended by the Government for the office of judge of the Court of Appeal or of the Superior Court are previously selected according to the procedure for the selection of persons apt for appointment as judges established by government regulation."

GENERAL AMENDING PROVISIONS

49. Unless the context or this Act indicates otherwise, in any Act or regulation,

(1) "Lieutenant-Governor", when it refers to the Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, is replaced by "Officer of Québec", with the necessary modifications;

(2) except in the expression "Ministère du Conseil exécutif", all occurrences of "Conseil exécutif", when it refers to the Conseil exécutif du Québec, and of "Conseil exécutif du Québec" are replaced by "Conseil des ministres", and all occurrences of "the Executive Council" and of "the executive council" are replaced by "the Conseil des ministres", with the necessary modifications.

50. The expressions "Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs" and "Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Reform of Democratic Institutions" are replaced by "Minister Responsible for Canadian Relations and Constitutional Affairs" in the following provisions:

(1) the third paragraph of article 541.31 of the Civil Code of Québec;

(2) the first paragraph of section 41 of the Act respecting the civil aspects of international and interprovincial child abduction (chapter A-23.01);

(3) the second paragraph of section 95.0.1 of the Professional Code (chapter C-26);

(4) paragraph 1 of section 39.0.0.1 of the Act respecting labour standards (chapter N-1.1); and

(5) the sixth paragraph of section 331.2 of the Securities Act (chapter V-1.1).

PART VI

FINAL PROVISIONS

51. The provisions of this Act come into force on (*insert the date of assent to this Act*), except

(1) those of section 1, except insofar as it enacts section 59 of the Constitution of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Constitution of Québec*), which come into force on 24 June 2026 or an earlier date determined by the Government;

(2) those of section 1, insofar as it enacts section 59 of the Constitution of Québec, those of section 2, insofar as it enacts sections 23 and 24 of the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec (*insert the year and chapter number of this Act and the number of the section of this Act that enacts the Act*

respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec), and those of sections 3 and 34, which come into force on the date or dates to be determined by the Government;

(3) those of section 2, insofar as it enacts sections 19 to 21 of the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec, which come into force on the date of coming into force of the first regulation made under section 19 of the Act respecting the constitutional autonomy of Québec; and

(4) those of section 48, insofar as it enacts section 2.1 of the Courts of Justice Act (chapter T-16), which come into force on the date of coming into force of the first regulation made under section 2.1 of the Courts of Justice Act.