



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

SECOND SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 498

**An Act to remove obstacles
to efficiency in the health system**

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr. Youri Chassin
Member for Saint-Jérôme**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The purpose of this bill is to remove restrictive measures in the laws and regulations, which are obstacles to efficiency in the health system.

For that purpose, the bill abolishes the obligation for a physician to devote part of their practice to specific medical activities in order to participate in an agreement between an organization representing physicians and the Minister of Health and Social Services.

The bill also abolishes the obligation to draw up a territorial medical staffing plan and ipso facto abolishes the agreements requiring that such a plan be complied with in order to participate in them.

In addition, the bill removes the obligation to establish a medical and dental staffing plan and, therefore, also abolishes the obligation that an appointment within an institution must comply with the medical and dental staffing plan.

The bill repeals the Act to foster the practice of medicine in the public health and social services network, which in particular requires a physician to obtain the authorization of Santé Québec to become a non-participating professional practising medicine outside the scope of the public plan established by the Health Insurance Act.

The bill provides that a mixed-practice professional may be subject to the application of an agreement for only a part of the professional's practice. It also provides for the operation of mixed specialized medical centres.

Lastly, the bill removes the bed limit and the 24-hour limit on hospitalization set for specialized medical centres.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29);
- Act respecting the governance of the health and social services system (chapter G-1.021);

- Act respecting the Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux (chapter I-13.03);
- Act respecting Institut national de santé publique du Québec (chapter I-13.1.1);
- Act respecting health services and social services for the Inuit and Naskapi (chapter S-4.2);
- Act respecting health services and social services for Cree Native persons (chapter S-5).

LEGISLATION REPEALED BY THIS BILL:

- Act to foster the practice of medicine in the public health and social services network (chapter E-20.002).

REGULATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Organization and Management of Institutions Regulation (chapter S-5, r. 5).

REGULATION REPEALED BY THIS BILL:

- Regulation respecting the specialized medical treatments provided in a specialized medical centre (chapter S-4.2, r. 25).

Bill 498

AN ACT TO REMOVE OBSTACLES TO EFFICIENCY IN THE HEALTH SYSTEM

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

HEALTH INSURANCE ACT

1. Section 1 of the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29) is amended by inserting the following subparagraph after subparagraph *e*:

“(e.1) “mixed-practice professional”: a professional who is subject to the application of an agreement for only a part of his practice;”.

2. Section 19 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out the fifth, seventh and ninth paragraphs;

(2) by replacing “sixth or seventh” in the tenth paragraph by “fifth”.

3. Section 19.1 of the Act is amended by replacing “thirteenth” in the second paragraph by “tenth”.

4. The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 22:

“22.0.0.0.0.1. A mixed-practice professional is considered to be a professional subject to the application of an agreement where the professional practices his profession within the scope of the plan established by this Act.

When the mixed-practice professional practises his profession outside the scope of the plan established by this Act, he is considered to be a non-participating professional.

The Board determines, by regulation, on what conditions the mixed-practice professional may practise outside the scope of the plan established by this Act.”

5. Section 27 of the Act is repealed.

6. Section 65 of the Act is amended by replacing “for preparing and assessing the implementation of any territorial medical staffing plan” in the fifth paragraph by “for drawing up a status report on the medical staffing in a territory”.

7. Section 69.0.1.1 of the Act is amended by replacing “eighth and ninth paragraphs” by “sixth paragraph”.

8. Section 77 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out the last sentence of the first paragraph;

(2) by striking out “or may not be remunerated for an insured service, as the case may be,” in the second paragraph.

9. Section 77.0.1 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out the second paragraph;

(2) by replacing “An order” in the third paragraph by “Such an order of non-participation”.

10. Section 77.1.1 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out the last sentence of the first paragraph;

(2) by striking out “or may not be remunerated for any insured service, as the case may be,” in the second paragraph;

(3) by striking out “or of the prohibition period during which such physicians may not be remunerated for any insured service, as the case may be,” in the third paragraph.

ACT TO FOSTER THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES NETWORK

11. The Act to foster the practice of medicine in the public health and social services network (chapter E-20.002) is repealed.

ACT RESPECTING THE GOVERNANCE OF THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES SYSTEM

12. Section 233 of the Act respecting the governance of the health and social services system (chapter G-1.021) is amended by inserting “or mixed” after “non-participating” in the fourth paragraph.

13. Subdivision 1 of subdivision IV of subdivision 2 of Division IV of Chapter I of Title I of Part III, comprising sections 234 and 235, is repealed.

14. Section 238 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out subparagraph 3 of the first paragraph;

(2) by replacing “Subparagraphs 2 and 3 of the first paragraph do” in the second paragraph by “Subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph does”.

15. Section 239 of the Act is amended by striking out subparagraph *b* of subparagraph 2 of the second paragraph.

16. Section 243 of the Act is amended by striking out “the medical and dental staffing plan approved or drawn up under section 235,” in the first paragraph.

17. Section 244 of the Act is repealed.

18. Section 249 of the Act is amended by striking out paragraph 1.

19. Section 250 of the Act is repealed.

20. Section 259 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out the last sentence of the first paragraph;

(2) by striking out “or during which that professional may not be remunerated for an insured service, as the case may be” in the second paragraph.

21. Section 446 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

“For the purposes of this Act, “private health facility” means an enterprise in which one or more physicians, dentists or other professionals, individually or as a group, regularly practise their profession, privately and solely on their own account, without directly or indirectly providing their clientele with lodging and without offering them specialized medical treatments.”

22. Section 449 of the Act is amended by striking out paragraph 2.

23. Section 455 of the Act is amended by striking out paragraph 2.

24. Section 464 of the Act is amended by striking out the second paragraph.

25. Section 465 of the Act is amended by replacing the second paragraph by the following paragraph:

“The Government may, if it considers it appropriate, require students from outside Québec to sign, before the beginning of their training, an undertaking with a penal clause, if applicable, to practise medicine for a period not exceeding four years in the region or for the institution determined by the Minister, in the event that they practise medicine in Québec after obtaining their licence to practise.”

26. Sections 467 to 483 of the Act are repealed.

27. Section 521 of the Act is amended by inserting “or mixed” after “operation of a non-participating”.

28. Section 523 of the Act is amended by striking out “in accordance with the needs set out in the medical and dental staffing plan approved or established by the president and chief executive officer of Santé Québec” in the second paragraph.

29. Section 575 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out subparagraph 5 of the first paragraph;

(2) in the second paragraph,

(a) by inserting “or mixed-practice physicians” after “non-participating physicians”;

(b) by replacing the last sentence by the following sentences: “A specialized medical centre within which physicians subject to an agreement practise is, for the purposes of this Act, designated a “participating specialized medical centre”, and one within which non-participating physicians practise is designated a “non-participating specialized medical centre”. A specialized medical centre within which physicians subject to an agreement, non-participating physicians or mixed-practice physicians practise is designated a “mixed specialized medical centre”.”;

(3) by striking out subparagraphs 2 and 3 in the third paragraph.

30. Section 582 of the Act is amended by inserting “or mixed” after “non-participating”.

31. Section 583 of the Act is amended by replacing “or a participating specialized medical centre and, in the latter case,” in the second paragraph by “, a participating medical centre or a mixed specialized medical centre, and in those two latter cases,”.

32. Section 586 of the Act is amended by inserting “or mixed” after “participating” in the third paragraph.

33. Section 786 of the Act is amended by inserting “or mixed” after “non-participating” in the first paragraph.

34. Sections 1511 and 1529 of the Act are repealed.

ACT RESPECTING THE INSTITUT NATIONAL D'EXCELLENCE
EN SANTÉ ET EN SERVICES SOCIAUX

35. Chapter V of the Act respecting the Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux (chapter I-13.03), comprising sections 41 to 43, is repealed.

ACT RESPECTING INSTITUT NATIONAL DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE
DU QUÉBEC

36. Chapter V of the Act respecting Institut national de santé publique du Québec (chapter I-13.1.1), comprising sections 21 to 23, is repealed.

ACT RESPECTING HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL SERVICES
FOR THE INUIT AND NASKAPI

37. Section 108 of the Act respecting health services and social services for the Inuit and Naskapi (chapter S-4.2) is amended by striking out “as projected in a medical staffing plan prepared by the agency” in the sixth paragraph.

38. Section 171 of the Act is amended by striking out the fourth paragraph.

39. Section 184 of the Act is amended

- (1) by striking out the last sentence of the second paragraph;
- (2) by striking out the third paragraph.

40. Section 186 of the Act is amended

- (1) by striking out the last sentence of the sixth paragraph;
- (2) by striking out the eighth paragraph.

41. Section 237 of the Act is amended by striking out the second paragraph.

42. Section 238 of the Act is amended by striking out “the number of physicians and dentists authorized in the medical and dental staffing plan,” in the first paragraph.

43. Section 240 of the Act is repealed.

44. Sections 242.1 and 243.1 of the Act are repealed.

45. Section 257 of the Act is amended

- (1) by striking out the last sentence of the first paragraph;

(2) in the second paragraph,

(a) by striking out “or during which he may not be remunerated for an insured service, as the case may be”;

(b) by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 2”.

46. Section 333.1 of the Act is amended by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 1” in the second paragraph.

47. Section 333.3 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end of the first paragraph:

“(3) a specialized medical centre where physicians subject to the application of an agreement under section 19 of the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29), non-participating physicians or mixed-practice physicians within the meaning of that Act practise.”

48. Section 333.4.2 of the Act is amended by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 1”.

49. Section 333.6 of the Act is amended by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 1” in the second paragraph.

50. Section 340 of the Act is amended by striking out “the special medical activities of physicians who are under agreement pursuant to section 360 or section 361.1 and” in subparagraph 5 of the second paragraph.

51. Section 352 of the Act is amended by striking out “and the special medical activities of physicians who are under agreement pursuant to section 360”.

52. Sections 360 to 366.1 and 377 to 379 of the Act are repealed.

53. Section 417.2 of the Act is amended in the first paragraph

(1) by striking out subparagraph 1;

(2) by striking out “and of the part of the regional medical staffing plan relating to general practitioners” in subparagraph 6.

54. Section 417.11 of the Act is amended in the first paragraph

(1) by striking out subparagraph 1;

(2) by striking out “and the part of the regional medical staffing plan relating to medical specialists” in subparagraph 4.

55. Section 431.2 of the Act is amended by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 2” in the last paragraph.

56. Section 453.2 of the Act is amended by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 1” in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph.

57. Section 530.53 of the Act is amended by striking out “and specific medical activities”.

58. Section 530.57 of the Act is repealed.

59. Section 530.61 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out “provided for in section 377 concerning the medical staffing plan of the region, the powers and duties” in the first paragraph;

(2) by striking out the second paragraph.

60. Section 530.75 of the Act is amended by striking out the second and third sentences of the second paragraph.

61. Section 530.99.2 of the Act is repealed.

62. Section 531.2 of the Act is amended by inserting “or 3” after “subparagraph 2”.

ACT RESPECTING HEALTH SERVICES AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CREE NATIVE PERSONS

63. Section 70.0.2 of the Act respecting health services and social services for Cree Native persons (chapter S-5) is repealed.

64. Section 132.2 of the Act is amended

(1) by striking out the last sentence of the first paragraph;

(2) by striking out “or during which the professional may not be remunerated for an insured service, as the case may be” in the second paragraph.

65. Section 173 of the Act is amended by striking out subparagraphs *i.0.1* and *i.0.2* in the first paragraph.

REGULATION RESPECTING THE SPECIALIZED MEDICAL TREATMENTS PROVIDED IN A SPECIALIZED MEDICAL CENTRE

66. Section 3 of the Regulation respecting the specialized medical treatments provided in a specialized medical centre (chapter S-4.2, r. 25) is repealed.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONS
REGULATION

67. The heading of Chapter VI of the Organization and Management of Institutions Regulation (chapter S-5, r. 5) is amended by striking out “AND REGIONAL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFFING PLANS”.

68. Sections 84.11 to 84.13 of the Regulation are repealed.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

69. Any agreement entered into between any body representing a class of professionals in the field of health and the Minister of Health and Social Services under the fifth or seventh paragraph of section 19 of the Health Insurance Act (chapter A-29) ceases to have effect not later than three months after the date of coming into force of this Act.

70. This Act comes into force on the date set by the Government, but not later than (*insert the date that is one year after the date of assent to this Act*).