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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

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SECOND SESSION

FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 592

**An Act to enact the Act respecting  
the regionalization of immigration  
in order to establish regional  
immigration panels and  
to affirm the role of the regions  
in the reception and integration  
of immigrants**

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**Introduction**

**Introduced by  
Madam Maïté Blanchette Vézina  
Member for Rimouski**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

*This bill enacts the Act respecting the regionalization of immigration in order to ensure the participation of municipalities in the decision-making process regarding immigration. More specifically, the Act provides for the establishment of a regional immigration panel for each of Québec's administrative regions. Each panel is composed of the minister responsible for the administrative region as well as the wardens of the regional county municipalities, the mayors or wardens representing equivalent territories and a representative of each Indigenous nation or community in the administrative region. Each panel must establish a regional immigration plan, which must, in particular, include the administrative region's capacity to receive and integrate immigrants and a description of the challenges the region faces with regard to labour mobility. The Minister must take the plan into account when making decisions concerning immigration planning.*

*The bill amends various Acts, such as the Municipal Powers Act, to add immigration to municipalities' areas of jurisdiction.*

*The bill also provides, with retroactive effect, that any amendment to the Québec Immigration Act or the regulations does not apply to a person already in Québec unless the foreign national or permanent resident requests that it apply to them.*

### **LEGISLATION ENACTED BY THIS BILL:**

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

### **LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:**

– Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (chapter C-37.01);

– Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec (chapter C-37.02);

- Municipal Powers Act (chapter C-47.1);
- Québec Immigration Act (chapter I-0.2.1);
- Act respecting integration into the Québec nation (chapter I-14.02);
- Act respecting the Ministère de l’Immigration, de la Francisation et de l’Intégration (chapter M-16.1).



## **Bill 592**

### **AN ACT TO ENACT THE ACT RESPECTING THE REGIONALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH REGIONAL IMMIGRATION PANELS AND TO AFFIRM THE ROLE OF THE REGIONS IN THE RECEPTION AND INTEGRATION OF IMMIGRANTS**

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

#### **CHAPTER I**

ENACTMENT OF THE ACT RESPECTING  
THE REGIONALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION

**1.** The Act respecting the regionalization of immigration, the text of which appears in this chapter, is enacted.

“ACT RESPECTING THE REGIONALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION

“AS the occupancy and vitality of territories are a national priority;

“AS immigration is important to the prosperity of Québec, the vitality of its regions and the economic development of its municipalities;

“AS municipalities play a fundamental role in the reception and integration of immigrants;

“THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

“CHAPTER I

“PURPOSE

“**1.** The purpose of this Act is to ensure the participation of municipalities in the decision-making process regarding immigration.

To that end, it provides, in particular, for the establishment of regional immigration panels.

## **“CHAPTER II**

### **“REGIONAL IMMIGRATION PANELS**

**“2.** A regional immigration panel is established for each administrative region of Québec.

Each panel is composed of

- (1) the minister responsible for the administrative region;
- (2) the wardens of the administrative region’s regional county municipalities;
- (3) the mayors or wardens representing the administrative region’s equivalent territories; and
- (4) a representative of each Indigenous nation or community in the administrative region.

When the panel discusses a particular subject likely to be of interest to a group that is active in matters of immigration, it invites a representative of the group, as well as any other person who, in the panel’s opinion, could enhance its understanding of the subject to participate in the discussion.

**“3.** The mandate of each panel is

- (1) to advise the Minister on any question the Minister submits to it concerning immigration, in particular in connection with immigrant selection, reception and integration;
- (2) to establish a regional immigration plan; and
- (3) to recommend to the Minister any other measure to promote regional immigration.

It is the preferred forum for consultation on matters of immigration between the Minister and the administrative region represented by the panel.

## **“CHAPTER III**

### **“REGIONAL IMMIGRATION PLAN**

**“4.** Each regional immigration panel must establish a regional immigration plan.

The minister responsible for the administrative region submits the plan to the Minister for approval.

**“5.** The regional immigration plan must, in particular, include

- (1) the regional immigration priorities and objectives;
- (2) the regional or sectoral labour needs;
- (3) the region’s capacity to receive and integrate immigrants;
- (4) the immigration targets;
- (5) the integration strategies;

(6) a description of the challenges regarding labour mobility between administrative regions; and

- (7) the proposed agreements with an employer or any other local partner.

**“6.** The Minister takes the regional immigration plans into account in any decision regarding immigration planning and the integration of immigrants.

**“7.** Each regional immigration panel is required to revise its regional immigration plan every five years.

In the intervals between revisions, the panel may also make any amendment to the plan that ensures the enhanced participation of the administrative region in the reception and integration of immigrants.

Every revision is submitted for approval to the Minister by the minister responsible for the administrative region.

**“8.** The Minister publishes the regional immigration plans and any revisions to the plans on the website of the Minister’s department, within a reasonable time.

The Minister sends the regional immigration plans and any revisions to them to the federal minister responsible for immigration so that the latter may be informed of each region’s capacity to receive immigrants and of its challenges regarding labour mobility.

## **“CHAPTER IV**

### **“FINAL PROVISION**

**“9.** The Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration is responsible for the administration of this Act.”

**CHAPTER II**  
**AMENDING PROVISIONS**

**ACT RESPECTING THE COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE  
DE MONTRÉAL**

**2.** Section 119 of the Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (chapter C-37.01) is amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph 2:

“(2.0.1) immigration;”.

**3.** The Act is amended by inserting the following division after Division III of Chapter III:

**“DIVISION III.0.1**  
**“IMMIGRATION**

**“151.0.1.** The Community may take any measure for the purpose of promoting immigrant reception and integration in its territory.

To that end, the Community may, in particular,

(1) establish links with organizations whose mission is immigrant reception; and

(2) foster the establishment and maintenance of services aimed at promoting immigrant integration.

The Community may, by by-law and in accordance with the policy directions and strategies defined in the regional immigration plan for its administrative region, adopt a program under which it grants assistance to any immigrant.”

**ACT RESPECTING THE COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE  
DE QUÉBEC**

**4.** Section 112 of the Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec (chapter C-37.02) is amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph 2:

“(2.1) immigration;”.

**5.** The Act is amended by inserting the following division after Division III of Chapter III:

**“DIVISION III.1**

**“IMMIGRATION**

**“144.1.** The Community may take any measure for the purpose of promoting immigrant reception and integration in its territory.

To that end, the Community may, in particular,

(1) establish links with organizations whose mission is immigrant reception; and

(2) foster the establishment and maintenance of services aimed at promoting immigrant integration.

The Community may, by by-law and in accordance with the policy directions and strategies defined in the regional immigration plan for its administrative region, adopt a program under which it grants assistance to any immigrant.”

**MUNICIPAL POWERS ACT**

**6.** Section 4 of the Municipal Powers Act (chapter C-47.1) is amended by inserting the following paragraph after subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph:

“(2.1) immigration;”.

**7.** The Act is amended by inserting the following chapter after Chapter III of Title II:

**“CHAPTER III.1**

**“IMMIGRATION**

**“13.2.** A local municipality may, for the purpose of promoting immigrant reception and integration in its territory, make by-laws governing the reception and integration services it offers.

To that end, it may, in particular,

(1) establish links with organizations whose mission is immigrant reception; and

(2) foster the establishment and maintenance of services aimed at promoting immigrant integration.

**“13.3.** A local municipality may, by by-law and in accordance with the policy directions and strategies defined in the regional immigration plan for its administrative region, adopt a program under which it grants assistance to any immigrant.”

**8.** Section 93 of the Act is amended by inserting the following subparagraph after subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph:

“(2.1) organization and promotion of immigrant reception and integration services; and”.

## QUÉBEC IMMIGRATION ACT

**9.** Section 3 of the Québec Immigration Act (chapter I-0.2.1) is amended by inserting “, as defined in the regional immigration plans” after “regions’ needs”.

**10.** Section 5 of the Act is amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the second paragraph: “They must, however, be broken down by administrative region.”

**11.** Section 45 of the Act is amended by replacing “Québec’s labour market needs” in the second paragraph by “the labour market needs for each administrative region of Québec”.

**12.** Section 60 of the Act is amended by inserting “, after consultation with the regional immigration panels” after “programs for immigrants” in the first paragraph.

**13.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 106:

**“106.1.** The Government or the Minister, as the case may be, must consult the regional immigration panels before making any regulation under this Act that could affect a municipality, in particular any regulation made for the purposes of sections 9, 15 to 17, 22 to 24, 26, 29 or 32.”

**14.** The Act is amended by inserting the following section before section 121:

**“120.1.** Despite any provision to the contrary, an amendment to the Act or the regulations does not apply to a foreign national already staying in Québec or to a permanent resident already settled in Québec at the time of coming into force of the amendment, unless that person requests that the new provision apply.”

## ACT RESPECTING INTEGRATION INTO THE QUÉBEC NATION

**15.** Section 8 of the Act respecting integration into the Québec nation (chapter I-14.02) is amended by inserting “and the regional immigration panels” after “ministers concerned” in the first paragraph.

ACT RESPECTING THE MINISTÈRE DE L'IMMIGRATION,  
DE LA FRANCISATION ET DE L'INTÉGRATION

**16.** Section 4 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration (chapter M-16.1) is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

“For the purposes of subparagraphs 1 to 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 of the first paragraph, the Minister consults the regional immigration panels.”

**CHAPTER III**

**FINAL PROVISION**

**17.** This Act comes into force on (*insert the date of assent to this Act*), except section 14, which has effect from 18 November 2025.

