



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 151

An Act to amend the Courts of Justice Act

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr Paul Bégin
Minister of Justice**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill amends the Courts of Justice Act to reduce to not more than 270 the number of judges at the Court of Québec. The reduction shall be effected progressively as and when judges of the Court of Québec become eligible for retirement or cease to hold office as judges.

The bill also amends the procedure governing the appointment of the secretary of the Conseil de la magistrature.

Bill 151

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COURTS OF JUSTICE ACT

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS :

1. Section 85 of the Courts of Justice Act (R.S.Q., chapter T-16) is amended by replacing the figure “290” by the words “not more than 270”.

2. Sections 255 to 255.4 of the said Act are replaced by the following sections :

“255. The secretary and the other members of the personnel of the council shall be appointed and remunerated in accordance with the Public Service Act (chapter F-3.1.1); the secretary shall be chosen by the Government from among advocates entered on the Roll of the Order of Advocates for at least 10 years.

“255.1. The secretary of the council shall, before taking office, make the oath or solemn affirmation set out in Schedule III before the chief judge of the Court of Québec.”

3. Schedule III to the said Act is amended by replacing the figure “255.3” by the figure “255.1”.

4. Notwithstanding section 1, a person who, on (*insert here the date of coming into force of this Act*), is a judge of the Court of Québec may continue to hold that office until retirement.

5. The term of office of the secretary of the Conseil de la magistrature in office on (*insert here the date immediately preceding the date of coming into force of this Act*) shall end upon the appointment of the secretary pursuant to section 255 of the Courts of Justice Act, as replaced by section 2 of this Act.

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