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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Wednesday, 15 May 1996 — No. 21**

**President of the National Assembly:  
Mr. Jean-Pierre Charbonneau**

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**QUÉBEC**



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The Assembly was called to order at 10.02 o'clock a.m.

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Business Having Precedence

#### *Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly held the debate on the motion by Mr. Landry, the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government.

During his speech, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte) tabled the following:

A table indicating the impact on the own-source revenue of the Government caused by the downward adjustment of the economic forecast.

(Sessional Paper No. 115-960515)

And, at the end of his speech, Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT this Assembly severely blame the Government for having tabled a budget that contains no measures to stimulate job creation and investment and causes an unacceptable increase in the tax burden of individuals and companies, thus undermining even more so the fiscal competitiveness of Québec.

Having suspended the proceedings to meet with the House Leaders of the parliamentary groups in order to organize the debate on the Budget Speech, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, informed the Assembly of the allocation of speaking time for the thirteen hours and thirty minutes that are provided for the first part of this debate:

The group forming the Government may speak for up to six hours and thirty minutes, including the Budget Speech, which lasted one hour and forty minutes.

The Official Opposition may also speak for up to six hours and thirty minutes, including the speech previously delivered by its Finance critic and the twelve minutes of comments he made last Thursday, immediately after the Budget Speech of the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance.

The independent Members may speak for up to ten minutes each; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally any time not used by the independent Members.

Individual Members each may speak for up to twenty minutes, provided that the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Official Opposition, or their delegates, may each speak for up to sixty minutes.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte);

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 53 and 54, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, gave the following notice:

X the Committee on Social Affairs shall hold special consultations within the framework of the examination of the operations of agencies having an influence on the consumption of prescription drugs in Québec.

And debate continuing on the motion by Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, and on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte);

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At 12.57 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 3.00 o'clock p.m.; the Debate on the Budget Speech was accordingly deemed adjourned.

The proceedings resumed at 3.03 o'clock p.m.

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Moment of reflection

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Introduction of Bills**

Mr. Landry, Minister of Finance, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

- 3 An Act respecting the elimination of the deficit and a balanced budget.

The motion was carried.

- 19 An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act as regards Québec savings products.

The motion was carried.

- 36 An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

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Mrs. Harel, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, moved that leave be granted to

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introduce the following Bill:

35 Pay Equity Act.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

33 An Act respecting prescription drug insurance and amending various legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Léonard, Minister for Administration and the Public Service, Chairman of the Conseil du Trésor, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

34 An Act respecting the transfer of the powers and functions of the Office des ressources humaines.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

25 An Act to amend the Civil Code as regards the obligation of support.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

22 An Act to amend the Act respecting land use planning and development.

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The motion was carried.

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- 24 An Act to amend the Cities and Towns Act, the Municipal Code of Québec and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

- 30 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Julien, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 23 An Act to amend the Act to preserve agricultural land and other legislative provisions in order to promote the preservation of agricultural activities.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Rioux, Minister of Labour, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

- 31 An Act to amend the Act respecting labour standards.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Bertrand, Minister for Revenue, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bills:

- 29 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.



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32 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. President communicated to the Assembly and then laid upon the Table the report from the Law Clerk on the following Private Bill:

235 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec X This Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-third day of June 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 116-960515)

Mr. Jolivet (Laviolette) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 235, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec.

This motion was carried.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Private Bill 235 was referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Education, of which the Minister of Education shall be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Boisclair, Minister for Relations with the Citizens, moved:

THAT the National Assembly mark Québec Families Week, which is being held from 13 to 19 May 1996, and International Family Day, which is celebrated today, 15 May, under the aegis of the United Nations.

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By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, the motion was carried.

**Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, convened the following Committee:

- X the Committee on Institutions, to continue its general consultations on the document of the Director General of Elections entitled "Document de réflexion, amendements à la *Loi électorale*" (Study paper, amendments to the *Election Act*).

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Mr. President gave the following notices:

- X the Committee on Culture shall meet for the purpose of examining the financial commitments of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and of the agencies under the authority of the Minister responsible for the administration of the Charter of the French language;
- X the Committee on Institutions shall hold a deliberative meeting.

And, by leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 143:

- X the Committee on Social Affairs shall hold special consultations and public hearings for the purpose of examining the operations of agencies having an influence on the consumption of prescription drugs in Québec.

**Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mr. President rendered the following decision with regard to a request to hold a debate upon adjournment made by Mr. Gauthier (Verdun) at the sitting of Thursday, 9 May 1996:

**RULING FROM THE CHAIR**

The request from the Member for Verdun to hold a debate upon adjournment on Tuesday regarding an issue raised on the previous Thursday is not receivable. A debate upon adjournment must be requested for the very day on which the subject was raised. The only exception to this rule regards the debates requested following

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Oral Questions and Answers on Wednesdays.

**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Business Having Precedence**

*Debate on the Budget Speech*

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion by Mr. Landry, the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, —That the Assembly approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government, and on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte).

At the end of his speech, Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved the following want of confidence motion:

THAT the National Assembly severely blame the Government of the Parti Québécois for having tabled a budget that anticipates an increase in the unemployment rate while never ceasing to claim that its priority is employment, which indicates that the Government itself does not believe in the success of the measures to create jobs that it shall take in the course of the next three years.

And debate continuing on the motion by the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance and on the want of confidence motions moved by Mr. Bourbeau (Laporte) and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup);

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 20, the proceedings continued beyond 6.00 o'clock p.m.

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At 6.07 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 16 May 1996, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

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*President*