



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 29 May 1996 — No. 27

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.10 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Resuming the debate on the motion by Mrs. Harel, Minister responsible for the Status of Women, —That Bill 35, Pay Equity Act, do now pass in principle;

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 35 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mrs. Caron, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 35 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Social Affairs.

Mr. Perreault, Minister of Public Security, moved, —That Bill 13, An Act to amend various provisions relating to alcoholic beverages, video lottery and amusement machines, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 13 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mrs. Caron, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 13 was referred for

clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Institutions.

At 11.07 o'clock a.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, suspended the proceedings, which resumed at 11.21 o'clock a.m.

Passage in Principle

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 20, An Act to amend the Legal Aid Act, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

At 1.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 3.00 o'clock p.m.; the debate on the motion by Mr. Bégin was accordingly deemed adjourned.

The proceedings resumed at 3.06 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

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

201 An Act respecting Ville de Lévis X This Bill may not be introduced in the Assembly and it may not receive final passage before the twenty-third day of

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June 1996 without leave of the Assembly to set aside the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings with regard to private bills as well as Standing Order 22.

(Sessional Paper No. 132-960529)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside sections 36 and 37 of the Rules for the Conduct of Proceedings with regard to private bills, Mr. Garon (Lévis) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 201, An Act respecting Ville de Lévis.

This motion was carried.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Private Bill 201 was referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, of which the Minister of Municipal Affairs shall be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

Presenting Papers

Mr. President tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission des droits de la personne for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1995.

(Sessional Paper No. 133-960529)

The following Decisions by the Office of the National Assembly:

Dated 21 May 1996:

Decision 781 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting Members' allowances (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les allocations aux députés);

Decision 782 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the remuneration and the conditions of employment which apply to the staff of the cabinets at the National Assembly and respecting payment for professional services (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la rémunération et les conditions de travail du personnel des cabinets de l'Assemblée nationale et sur le paiement des services professionnels);

Decision 783 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the remuneration

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and the conditions of employment which apply to a Member's staff and respecting payment for professional services (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la rémunération et les conditions de travail du personnel d'un député et sur le paiement des services professionnels);

Decision 784 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting financial management (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur la gestion financière et administrative);

Decision 785 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting clothing allowances, uniforms and special garments (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les allocations vestimentaires, les uniformes et les vêtements spéciaux);

Decision 786 concerning the regulation to repeal the regulation respecting bulk mailings (Règlement abrogeant le Règlement sur les envois sans adresse);

Decision 787 concerning the regulation to amend various regulatory provisions (Règlement modifiant diverses dispositions réglementaires);

Decision 792 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting parliamentary documents (Règlement modifiant le Règlement concernant les documents parlementaires);

Dated 28 May 1996:

Decision 793 concerning the 1996-97 Estimates of the Auditor General (Concernant les prévisions budgétaires 1996-1997 du Vérificateur général).

(Sessional Paper No. 134-960529)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Landry (Bonaventure) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 28 May 1996 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

133 An Act to amend the Charter of human rights and freedoms and other legislative provisions – Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 135-960529)

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Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) tabled the following:

The reports from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which met on 28 May 1996 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bills:

5 An Act to amend the Mining Duties Act – Reported with certain amendments.
(Sessional Paper No. 136-960529)

129 An Act to amend the Act respecting lotteries, publicity contests and amusement machines in respect of international cruise ships X Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 137-960529)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

By leave of the President, Mr. Maciocia (Viger) gave explanations, pursuant to Standing Order 71, denying the allegations reported on 23 May 1996 in *The Gazette* newspaper that he had put pressure in order that his father be allowed to vote in the referendum of 30 October 1996.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Ouimet (Marquette) tabled the following:

A table indicating the progression of the salary of a teacher of average income for the school years from 1994-95 to 1997-98.

(Sessional Paper No. 138-960529)

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- X the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 1, An Act respecting the Ministère de la Métropole;
- X the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its special consultations on Bill 33, An Act respecting prescription drug insurance and amending various legislative provisions;
- X the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to give clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bills in the order given: Bill 26, An Act respecting the Ministère du Travail, and Bill 27, An Act to amend the Labour Code;
- X the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 13, An Act to amend various provisions relating to alcoholic beverages, video lottery and amusement machines.

Mr. President gave the following notice:

- X the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of deciding on the recommendations to be made regarding the report on the orders of accountability and surveillance of agencies that were executed last February and March, and to organize the examination of the financial commitments.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved:

THAT the National Assembly request that the Parti Québécois Government act upon the commitments made in this House by the former Prime Minister and by the

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Deputy Prime Minister to subject the appointments of the main top-ranking public servants of Québec to parliamentary scrutiny, so as to avoid repeating partisan appointments, which have become usual practice at the executive levels of the public service and of Government agencies.

Before the debate began, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: 20 minutes shall be allotted to the mover of this motion, who shall also be allotted 10 minutes for his reply, and 5 minutes shall be set aside for each of the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the time allotted for this debate, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Dumont;

At the end of his speech, Mr. Bélanger, Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, moved the following motion:

THAT the motion under debate be amended:

- 1° by striking out the words "Parti Québécois Government" and substituting the following therefor: "Québec Government, particularly the Minister responsible for Parliamentary Reform";
- 2° by striking out the word "commitments" and substituting the following therefor: "statements";
- 3° by striking out the words "to subject the appointments of the main top-ranking public servants of Québec to parliamentary scrutiny" and substituting the following therefor: "to submit to the subcommittee of the National Assembly responsible for parliamentary reform amendments to the Standing Orders that would empower the Parliamentary Committees to examine the appointments of the main top-ranking public servants of Québec";

- 4° by removing the words "so as to avoid repeating partisan appointments, which have become usual practice at the executive levels of the public service and of Government agencies".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly request that the Québec Government, particularly the Minister responsible for Parliamentary Reform, act upon the statements made in this House by the former Prime Minister and by the Deputy Prime Minister to submit to the subcommittee of the National Assembly responsible for parliamentary reform amendments to the Standing Orders that would empower the Parliamentary Committees to examine the appointments of the main top-ranking public servants of Québec.

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, took the matter of the receivability of this amendment under advisement.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on both the main motion by Mr. Dumont and on the amendment by Mr. Bélanger, subject to the latter being ruled in order.

At the end of his speech, Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey) moved the following motion:

THAT the amendment being discussed be subamended:

- 1° by adding the following words at the end: "and that this subcommittee meet no later than 7 June 1996 and that it propose regulatory amendments no later than 14 June 1996";
- 2° by striking out the words "the main" and substituting the following therefor: "all the".

The motion, as amended and subamended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly request that the Québec Government, particularly the Minister responsible for Parliamentary Reform, act upon the

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statements made in this House by the former Prime Minister and by the Deputy Prime Minister to submit to the subcommittee of the National Assembly responsible for parliamentary reform amendments to the Standing Orders that would empower the Parliamentary Committees to examine the appointments of all the top-ranking public servants of Québec, and that this subcommittee meet no later than 7 June 1996 and that it propose regulatory amendments no later than 14 June 1996.

Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, then ruled in order the amendment moved by Mr. Bélanger, Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, and the subamendment moved by Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey).

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on the subamendment, the amendment and the main motion.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on the subamendment; recorded divisions were demanded on this subamendment, the amendment and the main motion.

At the request of Mrs. Caron, Deputy Government House Leader, the divisions were deferred until Routine Proceedings at the next sitting.

At 5.58 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 30 May 1996, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President