



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 30 May 1996 — No. 28

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 2.07 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Statements by Ministers

Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, made a statement about the Government policy regarding the consolidation of local communities and the grouping of municipalities.

Introduction of Bills

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

38 An Act to establish the road network preservation and improvement fund.

The motion was carried.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Marsan (Robert-Baldwin) tabled the following:

A series of tables, prepared by the Regroupement des assureurs de personnes à charte du Québec, relating to the costs of the universal drug plan proposed in the bill on prescription drug insurance sponsored by the Minister of Health and Social Services.

(Sessional Paper No. 139-960530)

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the divisions, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of 29 May 1996, on the motion moved by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader and Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, and on the subamendment motion moved by Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey).

First, the question was put on the subamendment moved by Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey). This motion reads as follows:

THAT the amendment by the Government House Leader and Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform 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 was negatived on the following vote:

(Division No. 32 in Appendix)

Yeas: 35 Nays: 57 Abstentions: 1

Then, the question was put on the amendment moved by Mr. Bélanger. This motion reads as follows:

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 was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 33 in Appendix)

Yeas: 57 Nays: 35 Abstentions: 0

Finally, the question was put on the motion by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), as amended by the preceding vote. This motion reads 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.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 34 in Appendix)

Yeas: 58 Nays: 34 Abstentions: 0

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) moved a motion requesting the interruption of the contribution process of investors in research and development; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved:

THAT on the occasion of World No-Tobacco Day this 31 May, whose theme is "Sports et arts sans tabac" (Tobacco-free sports and arts), the National Assembly join the World Health Organization in making the population aware of the seriousness of the problems caused by smoking.

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

Mrs. Charest (Rimouski) moved:

THAT the Members of the National Assembly mark the tricentennial of the City of Rimouski by paying tribute to the work accomplished by the pioneers and the priceless contribution of the thousands of men and women who, for the past three centuries, have made Rimouski a dynamic regional capital with an openness to the world.

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 Committees:

- 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 Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 130, An Act respecting administrative justice;

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- 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.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Having Precedence

Want of Confidence Motion

Mr. Lefebvre, Deputy Opposition House Leader, moved:

THAT the National Assembly severely condemn the Prime Minister of Québec for having reneged on his commitment of last 28 March: "it is the machinery, the administration, the apparatus, but the citizens are not affected", and for having, since then, through various measures, cut back in services to citizens and increased the burden of taxpayers.

Before the debate began, Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this want of confidence motion: 20 minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and 7 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; within this framework, Members may speak for up to 20 minutes each, with exception for the mover of the motion and the representative of the Prime Minister, who shall each be permitted to speak for one hour.

Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, raised the question of the receivability of the motion.

After having heard comments from both sides and after having taken the matter under advisement, Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, rendered the following decision:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The want of confidence motion by the Deputy Opposition House Leader is in order on the following grounds: on the one hand, nowhere in the Standing Orders is it stipulated that a quoted passage cannot be a part of a motion, and, on the other hand, it is not up to the Chair to verify whether a quoted passage contained in a motion is veracious or not.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Lefebvre;

At 6.01 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 8.04 o'clock p.m.

Want of Confidence Motion

The Assembly continued the debate on the want of confidence motion moved by Mr. Lefebvre, Deputy Opposition House Leader.

The debate being concluded, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

At the request of Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, the division was deferred until Routine Proceedings on the next sitting day.

At 9.58 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Monday, 3 June 1996, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

ROYAL ASSENT

On Thursday, 30 May 1996, at 9.45 o'clock a.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mrs. Vermette (Marie-Victorin), the Delegate of the President of the National Assembly, of Mr. Léonard, Minister for Administration and the Public Service, Chairman of the Conseil du Trésor, the Delegate of the Prime Minister, and of Mr. Duchesne, Secretary General of the National Assembly, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to assent to the following Bill:

6 Appropriation Act No. 2, 1996-97

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Mulcair (Chomedey) to subamend the motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader and Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, amending the motion by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) debated during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of 29 May 1996:

(Division No. 32)

YEAS - 35

Bélanger (<i>Mégantic-Compton</i>)	Copeman	Kelley	Paradis
Bergman	Cusano	Lefebvre	Parent
Bissonnet	Delisle	LeSage	Poulin
Bordeleau	Dionne	Loiselle	Sirros
Bourbeau	Farrah	Maciocia	Thérien
Brodeur	Frulla	MacMillan	Vallières
Charbonneau (<i>Bourassa</i>)	Gagnon-Tremblay	Marsan	Williams
Chenail	Gautrin	Middlemiss	
	Gauvin	Mulcair	
	Gobé	Ouimet	

NAYS - 57

Barbeau	Bertrand	Caron	Gendron
Baril (<i>Arthabaska</i>)	(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Carrier-Perreault	Harel
Baril (<i>Berthier</i>)	Bertrand (<i>Portneuf</i>)	Charest	Jolivet
Beaudoin	Blais	Cliche	Julien
Beaulne	Boisclair	Côté	Jutras
Beaumier	Boulerice	Désilets	Kieffer
Bégin	Bourdon	Deslières	Lachance
Bélanger (<i>Anjou</i>)	Brassard	Dion	Landry
	Brien	Doyer	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)
	Campeau	Facal	Landry
		Gaulin	(<i>Verchères</i>)

Laprise	Marois	Morin	Paquin
Leduc	Ménard	(<i>Dubuc</i>)	Paré
Léonard		Morin	
Létourneau		(<i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i>)	

Payne	Rochon
Pelletier	Simard
Perreault	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Rioux	Trudel
Rivard	Vermette
Robert	

ABSTENTIONS - 1

Dumont

On the motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader and Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, to amend the motion by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) debated during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of 29 May 1996:

(Division No. 33)

YEAS - 57

Barbeau	Charest	Marois
Baril	Cliche	Ménard
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Côté	Morin
Baril	Désilets	(<i>Dubuc</i>)
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Deslières	Morin
Beaudoin	Dion	(<i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i>)
Beaulne	Doyer	Paquin
Beaumier	Facal	Paré
Bégin	Gaulin	Payne
Bélanger	Gendron	Pelletier
(<i>Anjou</i>)	Harel	Perreault
Bertrand	Jolivet	Rioux
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Julien	Rivard
Bertrand	Jutras	Robert
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Kieffer	Rochon
Blais	Lachance	Simard
Boisclair	Landry	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Boulerice	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)	Trudel
Bourdon	Landry	Vermette
Brassard	(<i>Verchères</i>)	
Brien	Laprise	
Campeau	Leduc	
Caron	Léonard	
Carrier-Perreault	Létourneau	

NAYS - 35

Bélanger (<i>Mégantic-Compton</i>)	Cusano	Kelley	Paradis
Bergman	Delisle	Lefebvre	Parent
Bordeleau	Dionne	LeSage	Poulin
Bourbeau	Dumont	Loiselle	Sirros
Brodeur	Farrah	Maciocia	Thérien
Charbonneau	Frulla	MacMillan	Vallières
(<i>Bourassa</i>)	Gagnon-Tremblay	Marsan	Williams
Chenail	Gautrin	Middlemiss	
Copeman	Gauvin	Mulcair	
	Gobé	Ouimet	

ABSTENTIONS - 0

On the motion moved by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup), debated during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition at the sitting of 29 May 1996, as amended:

(Division No. 34)

YEAS - 58

Barbeau	Campeau	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)	Rochon
Baril	Caron	Landry	Simard
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Carrier-Perreault	(<i>Verchères</i>)	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Baril	Charest	Laprise	Trudel
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Cliche	Leduc	Vermette
Beaudoin	Côté	Léonard	
Beaulne	Désilets	Létourneau	
Beaumier	Deslières	Marois	
Bégin	Dion	Ménard	
Bélanger	Doyer	Morin	
(<i>Anjou</i>)	Dumont	(<i>Dubuc</i>)	
Bertrand	Facal	Morin	
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Gaulin	(<i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i>)	
Bertrand	Gendron	Paquin	
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Harel	Paré	
Blais	Jolivet	Payne	
Boisclair	Julien	Pelletier	
Boulerice	Jutras	Perreault	
Bourdon	Kieffer	Rioux	
Brassard	Lachance	Rivard	
Brien	Landry	Robert	

NAYS - 34

Bélanger	Cusano	Lefebvre	Parent
(<i>Mégantic-Compton</i>)	Delisle	LeSage	Poulin
Bergman	Dionne	Loiselle	Sirros
Bordeleau	Farrah	Maciocia	Thérien
Bourbeau	Frulla	MacMillan	Vallières
Brodeur	Gagnon-Tremblay	Marsan	Williams
Charbonneau	Gautrin	Middlemiss	
(<i>Bourassa</i>)	Gauvin	Mulcair	
Chenail	Gobé	Ouimet	
Copeman	Kelley	Paradis	

ABSTENTIONS - 0