



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 13 November 1996 — No. 52

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.05 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport and Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, moved, —That Bill 49, An Act to establish a disaster assistance fund for certain areas affected by the torrential rains of 19 and 20 July 1996, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 49 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Deputy Government House Leader, Bill 49 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee of the Whole.

On motion by Mr. Brassard, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 49.

Clause-by-Clause Consideration in Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole entered upon the clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 49, An Act to establish a disaster assistance fund for certain areas affected by the torrential rains of 19 and 20 July 1996.

Mr. Brouillet, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, granted leave to Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport and Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, to table the following:

The table of the regional county municipalities designated for the financial assistance programmes in relation to the torrential rains of 19 and 20 July 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 412-961113)

An estimate, dated 11 November 1996, of the costs in damages and governmental assistance given following the torrential rains of 19 and 20 July 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 413-961113)

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport and Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, moved an amendment to section 3 of Bill 49.

The amendment by Mr. Brassard was considered and then agreed to by the Committee.

Bill 49, as amended, was then carried by the Committee.

Bill 49 was thereupon reported to the Assembly, which concurred in the report from the Committee of the Whole.

At 1.07 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

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

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Introduction of Bills

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

69 An Act to amend the Savings and Credit Unions Act.

The motion was carried.

Mrs. Beaudoin, Minister of Culture and Communications, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

64 An Act to amend the Act respecting the professional status and conditions of engagement of performing, recording and film artists and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

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Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, on behalf of 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:

66 An Act to establish a departure incentive management fund.

The motion was carried.

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

63 An Act respecting semi-public companies in the municipal sector.

The motion was carried.

72 An Act to amend the constituent Acts of the urban communities and other legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

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

200 An Act to amend the charter of the city of Montréal X This Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-first day of December 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 414-961113)

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Mr. Boulerice (Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 200, An Act to amend the charter of the city of Montréal.

This motion was carried.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Private Bill 200 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. Bégin, Minister of Justice, tabled the following:

Copies of four letters regarding the appointment of Mr. Richard Therrien as judge of the Court of Québec: the first, dated 5 November 1996, which he had sent to Mrs. Huguette St-Louis, Chief Judge of the Court of Québec; the second, dated 11 November 1996, which he had sent to Mr. Jean Alarie, secretary of the Conseil de la Magistrature du Québec; the third, dated 11 November 1996, which he had sent to Mr. Claude Masse, President of the Québec Bar Association; and the fourth, dated 11 November 1996, sent to Mr. Ghyslain Lévesque, Director of the Sûreté du Québec, from Mr. Pierre Legendre, coordinator of the judges selection committee.

(Sessional Paper No. 415-961113)

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Conseil de la santé et du bien-être for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 416-961113)

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Mr. Perreault, Minister of Public Security, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Institut de police du Québec for the fiscal year ended 30 June 1996.
(Sessional Paper No. 417-961113)

Mr. Rioux, Minister of Labour, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Corporation des maîtres électriciens du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 July 1996.
(Sessional Paper No. 418-961113)

Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Industry and Trade, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société du Centre des congrès de Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.
(Sessional Paper No. 419-961113)

The annual report of the Société Innovatech du sud du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.
(Sessional Paper No. 420-961113)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Baril (Arthabaska) tabled the following:

The reports from the Committee on the Budget and Administration, which met on 12 November 1996 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bills:

14 An Act to amend the Real Estate Brokerage Act X Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 421-961113)

48 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société générale de financement du Québec

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X Reported without amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 422-961113)

Mrs. Bélanger (Mégantic-Compton) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, which met on 13 November 1996 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

- 46 An Act respecting certain assessment rolls drawn up under the responsibility of
Municipalité régionale de comté de Portneuf X Reported without
amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 423-961113)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the rent of low-cost housing and the number of public housing facilities and signed by 459 citizens of Rivière-du-Loup.

(Sessional Paper No. 424-961113)

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 62 and 63, Mr. Poulin (Beauce-Nord) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting education, full employment and the maintaining of adequate social services, and signed by 1600 petitioners of the riding of Beauce-Nord.

(Sessional Paper No. 425-961113)

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Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- X the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 30, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec.

Mr. President gave the following notices:

- X the Committee on Education shall hold a deliberative meeting to examine and concur in its draft report as well as in its conclusions and recommendations on the conditions surrounding success at the high school level;
- X the Committee on the Budget and Administration shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of organizing its proceedings.

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Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Chagnon (Westmount–Saint-Louis) moved:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Parti Québécois Government respect the signature it affixed to the collective agreements of the Government employees.

Before the debate began, Mr. President announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this motion: ten minutes shall be allotted for a reply by its mover and five 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 moved by Mr. Chagnon;

During his speech, Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, moved:

THAT the motion being discussed be amended:

- 1° by replacing, in the first and second lines, the words "demand that the Parti Québécois Government" by the words "ask that the Government of Québec";
- 2° by adding, in the third line, after the word "employees", the words "and that, accordingly, it support the Government in the discussions underway with the representatives of the Government employees aiming to find solutions in order to follow up on the consensus established at the Socioeconomic Conference of last March and to attain the zero deficit objective by the year 2000".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly ask that the Government of Québec respect the signature it affixed to the collective agreements of the Government employees and that, accordingly, it support the Government in the discussions underway with the

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representatives of the Government employees aiming to find solutions in order to follow up on the consensus established at the Socioeconomic Conference of last March and to attain the zero deficit objective by the year 2000.

After a suspension of the proceedings, Mr. Lefebvre, Deputy Opposition House Leader, raised the question of the receivability of the amendment motion.

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

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The amendment motion moved by Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, is not receivable on the grounds that an amendment motion cannot introduce a new principle, that is, a new subject that, for this reason, could, in itself, be a separate motion.

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

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

At 6.01 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Thursday, 14 November 1996, at 2.00 o'clock p.m.

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JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President