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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

## **Votes and Proceedings**

**of the Assembly**

**Tuesday, 11 March 1997 — No. 75**

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

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**QUÉBEC**



The Assembly was called to order at 2.08 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

Mr. President communicated to the Assembly and tabled the following:

The document entitled "Proposition de modifications au Règlement de l'Assemblée nationale" (Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly).  
(Sessional Paper No. 673-970311)

Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, and Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup) took the floor.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Orders 116 and 188, Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, then moved:

THAT the Standing Orders of the National Assembly be amended:

- by replacing Standing Orders 20, 21, 52, 92, 94, 97, 105, 111, 143, 146, 299, 307, 308, 309 and 312 by the Standing Orders contained in the document entitled "Proposition de modifications au Règlement de l'Assemblée nationale" (Proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly) tabled by the President today in the National Assembly;
- by adding Standing Order 143.1, which is also contained in the aforementioned document;

THAT these new Standing Orders be effective immediately the present motion is carried and remain in effect until Wednesday, 22 October 1997, notwithstanding the prorogation of the session;

THAT these new Standing Orders be included in the Votes and Proceedings as a constituent of the present motion:

**20.** The Assembly shall meet at 10.00 o'clock a.m. each day from Tuesday to Thursday and may continue to meet until 6.00 o'clock p.m., the proceedings being suspended from 12.00 o'clock noon until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The Assembly may also resolve, on motion without notice by the Government House leader, which motion may not be debated, to meet on a Monday from 2.00 o'clock until 6.00 o'clock p.m.

Whenever it may be expedient to do so in order to give effect to Standing Orders 271 or 278, and upon request to the President by the Government House leader, the Assembly may continue to meet past 8.00 o'clock p.m. The President shall inform the Assembly of such request at the earliest opportunity, and the proceedings shall accordingly be suspended from 6.00 o'clock until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

**21.** From the twenty-fifth day of May until the twenty-third day of June the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting, as follows: It shall meet at 10.00 o'clock a.m. each day from Tuesday to Friday and may continue to meet until 12.00 o'clock midnight, the proceedings being suspended from 1.00 o'clock until 3.00 o'clock p.m. and from 6.00 o'clock until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The Assembly may also resolve, on motion without notice by the Government House leader, which motion shall be moved during the Routine Proceedings when motions without notice are entered upon, to meet on a Monday during the hours appointed in the first paragraph of this Standing Order.

The mover of such motion and a representative of every parliamentary group in opposition may speak to the question for up to five minutes each, and the mover may thereafter speak for up to two minutes in reply.

**52.** The Routine Proceedings shall be taken at 2.00 o'clock p.m.: Provided that during any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting the Routine Proceedings shall be taken at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

**92.** The debate shall expire at not later than 6.00 o'clock p.m., without question put. If it is sooner concluded, the Assembly shall take other Orders of the Day:

Provided that during any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting the debate shall expire three hours after the time appointed by these Standing Orders for the Assembly to meet.

**94.** Subject to Standing Order 97, the Assembly shall, not later than fifteen days after a committee has laid upon the Table a report containing recommendations, take such report into consideration; but this Standing Order shall not apply to any report relating to a bill or to financial commitments or issuing from a deliberative meeting:

Provided that the aforementioned fifteen days shall not run during the debate on the opening speech of the session or the budget speech, or when estimates are under consideration in any committee, or on any day when business having precedence is before the Assembly.

**97.** On Wednesdays business standing in the name of Members in opposition shall be taken from 10.00 o'clock a.m. until not later than 12.00 o'clock noon.

The President may decide the order in which such matters are to be raised: Provided that in so doing he shall have regard to the sequence in which the notices thereof were placed on the Order Paper and Notices, to rotation among the parliamentary groups, and to the presence of independent Members. He shall, at the sitting prior to that at which such business is to be taken, inform the Assembly of the matter that is to be debated.

This Standing Order shall not apply during any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting.

**105.** A motion for the adjournment of the proceedings may be made only when that part of the Orders of the Day shall have been entered upon which follows the Routine Proceedings and when no other business is before the Assembly. Such motion must be moved by the Government House leader, shall require no notice, and may not be amended.

**111.** If at the time appointed by these Standing Orders for the proceedings to be suspended a matter referred to the committee of the whole has not been fully considered, the chairman shall, unless any vote is in progress or any question is then being put from the chair, rise without question put and report progress to the President; and the proceedings of the committee shall thereupon be adjourned:

Provided that during any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting the chairman shall leave the chair, and the proceedings shall thereupon be suspended.

**143.** Committees may meet on Mondays from 2.00 o'clock until 6.00 o'clock p.m.; on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9.00 o'clock a.m. until 6.00 o'clock p.m., the proceedings being suspended from 12.00 o'clock noon until 2.00 o'clock p.m.; and on Fridays from 9.00 o'clock a.m. until 12.00 o'clock noon.

**143.1.** From the twenty-fifth day of May until the twenty-third day of June committees shall have extended hours of meeting, as follows: They may meet each day from Monday to Friday between the hours of 10.00 o'clock a.m. and 12.00 o'clock midnight, the proceedings being suspended from 1.00 o'clock until 3.00 o'clock p.m. and from 6.00 o'clock until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

**146.** The Assembly may refer any matter to a committee for its examination. Such reference may be ordered either on a motion made by the Government House leader, which motion cannot be amended but may be discussed in a limited debate that shall not exceed one hour; or on a motion made pursuant to Standing Order 97 by a Member in opposition at a Wednesday meeting. Such order of reference from the Assembly shall have precedence.

**299.** One interpellation may be held in each week during the periods in which the Assembly may ordinarily meet: Provided that no interpellation may be held during any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting or

while the Assembly stands adjourned for more than five days.

**307.** During any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting the debate on a want of confidence motion shall conclude three hours after the time appointed by these Standing Orders for the Assembly to meet.

**308.** Any Member who is of the opinion that a matter he has raised during oral question period has not been sufficiently discussed may debate it further upon the adjournment of any Tuesday or Thursday sitting.

He shall give notice to the President, not later than thirty minutes after the conclusion of question period, of the matter he wishes to debate.

**309.** The President shall announce to the Assembly at the earliest opportunity any matter or matters that are to be debated upon adjournment. Such debates shall be held at the time appointed by these Standing Orders for the rising of the Assembly, which shall be accordingly delayed.

**312.** Not more than three debates may be held upon adjournment on any sitting day. The want of a quorum may not be noticed.

There shall be no debates upon adjournment during any period in which the Assembly shall have extended hours of meeting.

The question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 112 in Appendix)

Yeas: **114** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Mr. President then informed the Assembly that, on the one hand, he had received, on 4 March 1997, a letter from the Director General of Elections which included the Court of Appeal ruling in the case of Robert Therrien vs. Marcelle Pellerin and Pierre-F. Côté et al, and that, on the other hand, an application for a cesset processus had been addressed to the registry of

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the Supreme Court of Canada, with respect to the case in point, and that the hearing of this application had been appointed for Thursday, 13 March 1997.

### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Presenting Papers**

Mrs. Beaudoin, Minister of Culture and Communications, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société de radio-télévision du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 674-970311)

The annual report of the Société du Grand Théâtre de Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 August 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 675-970311)

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Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Fonds d'aide aux recours collectifs for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.

(Sessional Paper No. 676-970311)

The annual reports, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996, of the following professional corporations:

X the Ordre des agronomes du Québec;

(Sessional Paper No. 677-970311)

X the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers auxiliaires du Québec;

(Sessional Paper No. 678-970311)

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- X the Ordre des ingénieurs forestiers du Québec;  
(Sessional Paper No. 679-970311)
- X the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec;  
(Sessional Paper No. 680-970311)
- X the Collège des médecins du Québec;  
(Sessional Paper No. 681-970311)
- X the Ordre professionnel des travailleurs sociaux du Québec.  
(Sessional Paper No. 682-970311)

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Mr. Cliche, Minister of the Environment and Wildlife, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Fondation de la faune du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.  
(Sessional Paper No. 683-970311)

The annual report of the Support Program for Inuit Beneficiaries for Their Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Activities for the fiscal year ended 31 December 1995 (French, English and Inuit versions).  
(Sessional Paper No. 684-970311)

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

The annual report of the Société du parc industriel et portuaire de Bécancour for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1996.  
(Sessional Paper No. 685-970311)

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Mr. President tabled the following:

The Message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in honour of Commonwealth Day.  
(Sessional Paper No. 686-970311)

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A letter, dated 19 February 1997, he had received from the Honourable Huguette St-Louis, Chief Justice of the Court of Québec, regarding the appointment procedure of the Court of Québec judges who are to constitute the Referendum Committee.

(Sessional Paper No. 687-970311)

The following Decisions by the Office of the National Assembly, dated 6 February 1997:

Decision 819 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting the organizational plan of the National Assembly's administration (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur le plan d'organisation administrative de l'Assemblée nationale);

Decision 820 concerning the regulation respecting the promotion of the Director of the Protocol and Hospitality Branch (Règlement relatif à la promotion du directeur de la Direction du protocole et de l'accueil);

Decision 821 concerning the regulation respecting the promotion of the Director of the Communications Branch (Règlement relatif à la promotion de la directrice de la Direction des communications);

Decision 822 concerning the regulation to amend the regulation respecting Members' allowances (Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les allocations aux députés);

Decision 824 concerning the regulation regarding the procedural requirements of the measure to recover 1.5 work days from the persons who come under the regulation respecting casual positions or offices and their occupants in the National Assembly (Règlement sur les modalités d'application de la mesure de récupération de 1,5 jour aux personnes visées par le Règlement sur les emplois ou fonctions d'un caractère occasionnel et leurs titulaires à l'Assemblée nationale);

Decision 825 concerning the regulation regarding the procedural requirements of the measure to recover 1.5 work days from the regular personnel that comes under the regulations on the remuneration and work conditions of the personnel of Members and cabinets at the National Assembly (Règlement sur les modalités d'application de la mesure de récupération de 1,5 jour au personnel régulier visé par les règlements sur la rémunération et les conditions de travail du personnel d'un député et des cabinets de l'Assemblée nationale).

(Sessional Paper No. 688-970311)

### **Presenting Reports from Committees**

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Mr. Landry (Bonaventure) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which met on 10 December 1996 and on 20 February 1997 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

131 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Conseil exécutif as regards standards of ethics and professional conduct – Reported with certain amendments, including one to the title.

(Sessional Paper No. 689-970311)

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 29 and 30 January and on 4 and 11 February 1997, held special consultations on Bill 65, An Act to institute, under the Code of Civil Procedure, pre-hearing mediation in family law cases and to amend other provisions of the Code.

(Sessional Paper No. 690-970311)

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Mr. Baril (Arthabaska) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on the Budget and Administration, which, on 12 February 1997, heard the Auditor General within the framework of the examination of his 1995-96 annual report, Volume II.

(Sessional Paper No. 691-970311)

A report from the Committee on the Budget and Administration, which, on 20 February 1997, met for the quarterly examination of the Government's budgetary policy and of the change in public finance.

(Sessional Paper No. 692-970311)

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

A report from the Committee on Labour and the Economy, which, on 29 and 30 January and

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on 4, 12, 13 and 18 February 1997, held a general consultation on Bill 79, An Act to establish the Commission des lésions professionnelles and amending various legislative provisions.  
(Sessional Paper No. 693-970311)

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

A report from the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, which, on 14, 16 and 21 January and on 18 February 1997, examined the financial commitments of the Ministère des Transports contained in the lists for the months of October 1994 to November 1996, those of the Minister responsible for Regional Development contained in the lists for the months of January 1993 to June 1996, those of the Ministère des Affaires municipales, sports and recreation sector, contained in the lists for the months of April 1993 to November 1996, and of the housing sector contained in the lists for the months of January 1993 to December 1996.  
(Sessional Paper No. 694-970311)

A report from the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, which, on 4, 11 and 18 February 1997, held special consultations on Bill 63, An Act respecting semi-public companies in the municipal sector.  
(Sessional Paper No. 695-970311)

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Mr. Garon (Lévis) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Culture, which, on 20 February 1997, examined the financial commitments under the authority of the Minister of Culture and Communications and Minister responsible for the administration of the Charter of the French language contained in the lists for the months of April 1996 to December 1996.  
(Sessional Paper No. 696-970311)

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Boulerice (Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques) 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 900 citizens of the riding of Sainte-Marie—Saint-Jacques.

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(Sessional Paper No. 697-970311)

### **Oral Questions and Answers**

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

### **Motions Without Notice**

Mr. Johnson, Leader of the Official Opposition, moved:

THAT the National Assembly pay homage to the memory of Mr. Paul-Eugène Quirion, the Member for Beauce-Sud, for his contribution to public life and for his outstanding devotion and work for the Beauce region and Québec.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried. At the invitation of Mr. President, the Assembly then observed a minute of silence.

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Mrs. Malavoy (Sherbrooke) moved:

THAT, on the occasion of International Women=s Day, the National Assembly reaffirm its solidarity with all Québec women, as well as with all women worldwide, in their quest for equity and social justice and spare no effort in order that progress for women may continue.

By leave of the Assembly under Standing Order 84, a debate arose thereon.

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

### **Notices of Proceedings in Committees**

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

- X the Committee on Social Affairs, to continue its special consultations on the green paper entitled "La réforme de la sécurité du revenu: Un parcours vers l=insertion, la formation et l=emploi" (The income security reform: Towards integration, training and employment);
- X the Committee on Planning and Infrastructures, to continue its special consultations on Bill 92, An Act respecting the Greater Montréal Development Commission.

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Mr. President gave the following notices:

- X the Committee on Education shall meet to hear the heads of educational institutions at the university level on the annual reports tabled before the National Assembly, pursuant to the *Act respecting educational institutions at the university level*;
- X the Committee on Institutions shall hold special consultations within the framework of an order of initiative regarding "les enfants de Duplessis" (Duplessis orphans);
- X the Committee on Labour and the Economy shall hold a deliberative meeting for the purpose of preparing the Hydro-Québec hearings that will be held within the framework of an order of surveillance of this agency.

### **Information on the Proceedings of the Assembly**

Mr. President informed the Assembly that on Wednesday, 12 March 1997, during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition, a debate will be held on the motion by Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier). This motion reads as follows:

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THAT the National Assembly demand that the Minister responsible for Family Policy include, in her family policy, the maintaining of the profit-making day care centres network, which offers controlled day care services to over 20,500 children daily, and that she commit herself to negotiating, as soon as possible, a true partnership with these 427 private enterprises, which are managed for the most part by women and which create 4000 jobs.

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**Debates on Reports from Committees**

The Assembly took into consideration the final report from the Committee on Education, which held public hearings on 27, 28 and 29 August 1996 and held deliberative meetings on 28 March, on 11 and 18 September, on 23 October and on 13 and 27 November 1996 within the framework of the order of initiative regarding the conditions surrounding success at the high school level. The report contains recommendations.

Before the debate began, Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate: five minutes shall be set aside for each of the independent Members; the two parliamentary groups shall share equally the rest of the period allotted for this debate; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group or by the independent Members may be redistributed, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising;

The debate expired and, pursuant to Standing Order 95, no question was put.

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At 5.59 o'clock p.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until Wednesday, 12 March 1996, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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ROYAL ASSENT

On Monday, 23 December 1996, at 11.06 o'clock a.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President of the National Assembly, of Mrs. Barbeau (Vanier), the Delegate of the Prime Minister, and of Mr. Bédard, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, the Honourable Jean-Louis Roux, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bills:

- 3 An Act respecting the elimination of the deficit and a balanced budget;
- 12 An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code and other legislative provisions;
- 30 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec;
- 38 An Act to establish the road network preservation and improvement fund;
- 41 An Act to again amend the Act respecting health services and social services  
*(modified title)*;
- 43 An Act respecting off-highway vehicles;
- 50 An Act respecting the Régie de l'énergie;
- 59 An Act to amend the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife;
- 60 An Act to amend the Act respecting insurance;
- 61 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice and other legislative provisions concerning the management and disposition of proceeds of crime;
- 62 An Act to amend the Professional Code with regard to the committees on discipline of the professional orders;

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- 66 An Act to establish a departure incentive management fund;
- 67 An Act to establish an administrative review procedure for real estate assessment and to amend other legislative provisions;
- 68 An Act to amend the Civil Code of Québec and the Code of Civil Procedure as regards the determination of child support payments;
- 69 An Act to amend the Savings and Credit Unions Act;
- 74 An Act to amend the Act respecting industrial accidents and occupational diseases and the Act respecting occupational health and safety;
- 75 An Act to amend the Act respecting collective agreement decrees;
- 76 An Act to establish a tourism partnership fund;
- 77 An Act to amend the Police Act and other legislative provisions;
- 78 An Act to amend various legislative provisions relating to the construction industry;
- 80 Appropriation Act No. 3, 1996-97;
- 82 An Act to defer the general election of 1996 in Ville de La Baie;
- 83 An Act to amend the Cities and Towns Act, the Municipal Code of Québec and other legislative provisions;
- 84 An Act to amend the Act respecting income security;
- 85 An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students and the General and Vocational Colleges Act;
- 87 An Act respecting conditions governing the use of immovables of the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal by the Commission des écoles catholiques de Montréal;
- 91 An Act to again amend the Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu;

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- 128 An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment in the public sector and the municipal sector;
- 202 An Act to amend the Act to incorporate Les Soeurs de Sainte-Anne;
- 209 An Act respecting federations, central councils and syndicates affiliated with the Confédération des syndicats nationaux (C.S.N.);
- 210 An Act respecting Congregation Shaar Hashomayim (Gate of Heaven);
- 212 An Act respecting Champlain Regional College of General and Vocational Education;
- 214 An Act respecting Business Leaders Group of Québec;
- 225 An Act respecting the Charter of the city of Hull;
- 235 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec;
- 238 An Act respecting the conversion of L=Entraide assurance-vie, société de secours mutuels, into a mutual insurance company;
- 242 An Act respecting Municipalité régionale de comté du Domaine-du-Roy;
- 250 An Act respecting Municipalité régionale de comté de Charlevoix-Est and Municipalité de Rivière-Malbaie (*modified title*).

**JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU**

*President*

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion by Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, to adopt the amendments to the Standing Orders of the National Assembly:

(Division No. 112)

YEAS - 114

Barbeau	Boucher	Doyer	Laporte
Baril	Boulerice	Dumont	Laprise
<i>(Arthabaska)</i>	Bourbeau	Facal	Laurin
Baril	Brassard	Farrah	Le Hir
<i>(Berthier)</i>	Brien	Filion	Leduc
Beaudet	Brodeur	Fournier	Lefebvre
Beaudoin	Brouillet	Frulla	Léger
Beaulne	Campeau	Gagnon	Lelièvre
Beaumier	Caron	Gagnon-Tremblay	Léonard
Bégin	Carrier-Perreault	Garon	LeSage
Bélanger	Chagnon	Gaulin	Loiselle
<i>(Anjou)</i>	Charbonneau	Gautrin	Maciocia
Bélanger	<i>(Bourassa)</i>	Gauvin	MacMillan
<i>(Mégantic-Compton)</i>	Charest	Gobé	Malavoy
Benoit	Chenail	Houda-Pepin	Marois
Bergman	Cherry	Johnson	Marsan
Bertrand	Chevrette	Jolivet	Ménard
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Ciaccia	Jutras	Middlemiss
Bertrand	Cliche	Kelley	Morin
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Côté	Kieffer	<i>(Dubuc)</i>
Bissonnet	Cusano	Lachance	Morin
Blackburn	Delisle	Lafrenière	<i>(Nicolet-Yamaska)</i>
Blais	Désilets	Landry	Mulcair
Boisclair	Deslières	<i>(Bonaventure)</i>	Ouimet
Bordeleau	Dion	Landry	Paquin
Bouchard	Dionne-Marsolais	<i>(Verchères)</i>	Paradis

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Paré	Poulin	Signori	Trudel
Parent	Rioux	Simard	Vaive
Payne	Rivard	<i>(La Prairie)</i>	Vallières
Pelletier	Robert	Simard	Vermette
Perreault	Rochon	<i>(Richelieu)</i>	Williams
Pinard	Saint-André	Sirros	

**NAYS - 0**

**ABSTENTIONS - 0**