



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Wednesday, 21 May 1997 — No. 104

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.01 o'clock a.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition

Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) moved:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the Prime Minister recognize the will, democratically expressed by Quebeckers in the referendum of 30 October 1995.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. Pinard, Vice-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; within this framework, any time not used by a parliamentary group shall be added to that of the other group while any time not used by the independent Members may be redistributed amongst the parliamentary groups, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion moved by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay);

At the end of his speech, Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary

Reform, moved:

THAT the motion under discussion be amended:

- 1° by striking out, in the first line, the words "Prime Minister" and substituting the following therefor: "men and women politicians of Québec";
- 2° by adding, at the end, the words "held in compliance with the *Referendum Act*, thus acknowledging the fundamental right of Quebeckers to determine their future pursuant to this Act".

The motion, as amended, would read as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the men and women politicians of Québec recognize the will, democratically expressed by Quebeckers in the referendum of 30 October 1995 held in compliance with the *Referendum Act*, thus acknowledging the fundamental right of Quebeckers to determine their future pursuant to this Act.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on both the main motion by Mr. Fournier and on the amendment by Mr. Chevrette, subject to the receivability of the latter, which Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, took under advisement.

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

THAT the amendment be subamended by adding, after the words "pursuant to this Act", the following words: "and in order to have the living strength of Québec unite for the purpose of achieving economic recovery and a climate promoting employment and investment, a moratorium on linguistic and constitutional discord be respected until the end of this mandate as well as for the duration of the subsequent one".

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

THAT the National Assembly demand that the men and women politicians of Québec recognize the will, democratically expressed by Quebeckers in the referendum of 30 October 1995 held in compliance with the *Referendum Act*, thus acknowledging the fundamental right of Quebeckers to determine their future pursuant to this Act and in order to have the living strength of Québec unite for the purpose of achieving economic recovery and a climate promoting employment and

investment, a moratorium on linguistic and constitutional discord be respected until the end of this mandate as well as for the duration of the subsequent one.

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, then ruled the amendment moved by Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, to be in order.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Fournier, on the amendment moved by Mr. Chevrette and on the subamendment moved by Mr. Dumont, subject to the receivability of the latter, which Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, took under advisement.

Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, rendered the following decision on the receivability of the subamendment moved by Mr. Dumont (Rivière-du-Loup):

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The subamendment moved by the Member for Rivière-du-Loup is not receivable on the grounds that it introduces a new principle irrelevant to the amendment motion and the main motion.

And debate continuing on the main motion by Mr. Fournier and on the amendment motion by Mr. Chevrette;

At the end of his speech, Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) moved:

THAT the amendment be subamended by adding, after the words "men and women politicians of Québec", the words "and more specifically the Prime Minister of Québec".

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

THAT the National Assembly demand that the men and women politicians of Québec, and more specifically the Prime Minister of Québec, recognize the will, democratically expressed by Quebeckers in the referendum of 30 October 1995 held in compliance with the *Referendum Act*, thus acknowledging the fundamental right of Quebeckers to determine their future pursuant to this Act.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 199, the debate continued on the main motion moved by Mr. Fournier, on the amendment moved by Mr. Chevrette and on the subamendment moved by Mr. Sirros, subject to the receivability of the latter, which Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, took under advisement.

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Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, ruled the subamendment by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) to be in order.

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 on the present sitting day.

At 12.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Pinard, Vice-President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 2.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 2.02 o'clock p.m.

Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Presenting Petitions

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mr. Ouimet (Marquette) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting private schools and signed by 151,874 petitioners from the Province of Québec.

(Sessional Paper No. 886-970521)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Robert (Deux-Montagnes) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting the maintaining of the choice between full-time and half-time kindergarten and signed by 468 citizens from the riding of Deux-Montagnes.

(Sessional Paper No. 887-970521)

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By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 63, Mrs. Delisle (Jean-Talon) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition, signed by 11,717 petitioners representing the populations of Stoneham-Tewkesbury, Lac-Delage, Charlesbourg, Lac-Beauport and Notre-Dame-des-Laurentides, requesting that their territory be affiliated with the school board including Beauport, Charlesbourg, Des Îlets and Chutes Montmorency.

(Sessional Paper No. 888-970521)

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the divisions, which had been deferred during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition earlier in today=s sitting, on the motion moved by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay), on the amendment motion moved by Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, and on the subamendment moved by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion).

First, the question was put on the subamendment moved by Mr. Sirros. This motion reads as follows:

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THAT the amendment be subamended by adding, after the words "men and women politicians of Québec", the words "and more specifically the Prime Minister of Québec".

The motion was negated on the following vote:

(Division No. 135 in Appendix)

Yeas: **35** Nays: **56** Abstentions: **0**

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

THAT the motion under discussion be amended:

- 1° by striking out, in the first line, the words "Prime Minister" and substituting the following therefor: "men and women politicians of Québec";
- 2° by adding, at the end, the words "held in compliance with the *Referendum Act*, thus acknowledging the fundamental right of Quebeckers to determine their future pursuant to this Act".

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 136 in Appendix)

Yeas: **91** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Finally, the question was put on the motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay), as amended by the preceding vote. This motion reads as follows:

THAT the National Assembly demand that the men and women politicians of Québec recognize the will, democratically expressed by Quebeckers in the referendum of 30 October 1995 held in compliance with the *Referendum Act*, thus acknowledging the fundamental right of Quebeckers to determine their future pursuant to this Act.

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The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 137 in Appendix)

Yeas: **91** Nays: **0** Abstentions: **0**

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Natural Resources, moved:

THAT the Members of the National Assembly mark Québec Flag Day, held on 24 May, which gives us the opportunity to express our pride in being Quebeckers.

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

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried.

Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) moved a motion concerning the combining of efforts to achieve economic recovery; this motion could not be debated for want of unanimous consent.

Notices of Proceedings in Committees

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

- X the Committee on Labour and the Economy, to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 79, An Act to establish the Commission des lésions professionnelles and amending various legislative provisions;

- X the Committee on Institutions, to give clause-by-clause consideration to Bill 125, An Act to amend various legislation in order to prevent crime and ensure public security, and to continue its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 89, An Act respecting the

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implementation of the Act respecting administrative justice;

- X the Committee on Education, to continue its special consultations on Bill 109, An Act to amend the Education Act, the Act respecting school elections and other legislative provisions.

Mr. President gave the following notice:

- X the Committee on Public Administration shall hear the Secretary of the Conseil du Trésor regarding the administrative management of salary insurance, pursuant to the *Act respecting the accountability of deputy ministers and chief executive officers of public bodies*.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Natural Resources, moved, —That Bill 119, An Act to amend the Act respecting the use of petroleum products and other legislative provisions, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 119 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 119 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Labour and the Economy.

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Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Natural Resources, moved, —That Bill 141, An Act respecting the Agence de l'efficacité énergétique, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 141 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 141 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Labour and the Economy.

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Resuming the debate on the motion by Mr. Chevrette, Minister of Natural Resources, —That Bill 111, An Act to amend the Forest Act, do now pass in principle;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 111 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 111 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Labour and the Economy.

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Resuming the debate on the motion by Mr. Cliche, Minister of the Environment and Wildlife, —That Bill 105, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act, do now pass in principle;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 105 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 105 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

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Mr. Bertrand, Minister for Revenue, moved, —That Bill 108, An Act to amend the Taxation Act and other legislative provisions of a fiscal nature, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried and Bill 108 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 108 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

Mr. Bégin, Minister of Justice, moved, —That Bill 106, An Act to amend the Press Act, do now pass in principle.

And debate arising;

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, the debate was adjourned.

Mr. Léonard, Minister for Administration and the Public Service, Chairman of the Conseil du Trésor, moved, —That Bill 123, An Act to amend various legislative provisions of the pension plans in the public and parapublic sectors, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and Bill 123 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, Bill 123 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance.

Mr. Bélanger, Government House Leader, moved the adjournment of the Assembly.

The motion was carried and, accordingly, at 5.28 o'clock p.m., the Assembly adjourned until Thursday, 22 May 1997, at 10.00 o'clock a.m.

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JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mr. Sirros (Laurier-Dorion) to subamend the motion by Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, amending the motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) debated during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition:

(Division No. 135)

YEAS - 35

Beaudet	Copeman	Houda-Pepin	Marsan
Bélanger	Delisle	Johnson	Middlemiss
<i>(Mégantic-Compton)</i>	Farrah	Kelley	Ouimet
Bergman	Fournier	Laporte	Paradis
Bissonnet	Frulla	Leblanc	Poulin
Bordeleau	Gagnon-Tremblay	Lefebvre	Sirros
Bourbeau	Gautrin	Loiselle	Vaive
Chagnon	Gauvin	Maciocia	Vallières
Cherry	Gobé	MacMillan	Williams

NAYS - 56

Barbeau	Blais	Deslières	Landry
Baril	Boisclair	Dion	<i>(Bonaventure)</i>
<i>(Berthier)</i>	Bouchard	Dionne-Marsolais	Landry
Beaulne	Boucher	Facal	<i>(Verchères)</i>
Beaumier	Brien	Gagnon	Laprise
Bégin	Campeau	Gaulin	Laurin
Bélanger	Caron	Gendron	Leduc
<i>(Anjou)</i>	Carrier-Perreault	Harel	Léger
Bertrand	Chevrette	Jolivet	Lelièvre
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Cliche	Julien	Léonard
Bertrand	Côté	Kieffer	Létourneau
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Désilets	Lachance	Malavoy

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Marois	Paquin	Robert	Simard
Ménard	Pelletier	Rochon	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Morin	Perreault	Signori	
(<i>Dubuc</i>)	Rioux	Simard	
Papineau	Rivard	(<i>La Prairie</i>)	

ABSTENTIONS - 0

On the motion by Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, to amend the motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay) debated during Business Standing in the Name of Members in Opposition:

(Division No. 136)

YEAS - 91

Barbeau	Bordeleau	Facal	Landry
Baril	Bouchard	Farrah	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Boucher	Fournier	Landry
Beaudet	Bourbeau	Frulla	(<i>Verchères</i>)
Beaulne	Brien	Gagnon	Laporte
Beaumier	Campeau	Gagnon-Tremblay	Laprise
Bégin	Caron	Gaulin	Laurin
Bélanger	Carrier-Perreault	Gautrin	Leblanc
(<i>Anjou</i>)	Chagnon	Gauvin	Leduc
Bélanger	Cherry	Gendron	Lefebvre
(<i>Mégantic-Compton</i>)	Chevrette	Gobé	Léger
Bergman	Cliche	Harel	Lelièvre
Bertrand	Copeman	Houda-Pepin	Léonard
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Côté	Johnson	Létourneau
Bertrand	Delisle	Jolivet	Loiselle
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Désilets	Julien	Maciocia
Bissonnet	Deslières	Kelley	MacMillan
Blais	Dion	Kieffer	Malavoy
Boisclair	Dionne-Marsolais	Lachance	Marois

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Marsan	Paquin	Robert	Sirros
Ménard	Paradis	Rochon	Vaive
Middlemiss	Pelletier	Signori	Vallières
Morin	Perreault	Simard	Williams
<i>(Dubuc)</i>	Poulin	<i>(La Prairie)</i>	
Ouimet	Rioux	Simard	
Papineau	Rivard	<i>(Richelieu)</i>	

NAYS - 0

ABSTENTIONS - 0

On the motion by Mr. Fournier (Châteauguay), as amended by the preceding vote:

(Division No. 137)

(Identical to Division No. 136)