



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Votes and Proceedings

of the Assembly

Thursday, 18 December 1997 — No. 151

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

QUÉBEC

The Assembly was called to order at 10.04 o'clock a.m.

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Moment of reflection

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Mr. President tabled the following:

The letter he had received from Mr. Régent L. Beaudet, the Member for Argenteuil, informing him of his resignation, effective 18 December 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1404-971218)

Introduction of Bills

Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Employment and Solidarity, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

186 An Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity.

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 185 in Appendix)

Yeas: **67** Nays: **43** Abstentions: **0**

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

404 An Act to amend the Act respecting health services and social services and amending various legislative provisions.

The motion was carried.

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

406 An Act to amend the Professional Code.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Bégin, Minister of the Environment and Wildlife, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

405 An Act to provide for the protection of groundwater.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

401 An Act to amend the Consumer Protection Act with respect to itinerant merchants.

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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:

221 An Act respecting TD Trust and Central Guaranty Trust Company X This Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-first day of December 1997, except as Standing Order 22 may otherwise provide.

(Sessional Paper No. 1405-971218)

Mr. Baril (Berthier) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 221, An Act respecting TD Trust and Central Guaranty Trust Company.

This motion was carried.

On motion by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, Private Bill 221 was referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance, of which the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance shall be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

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

247 An Act respecting The Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company, Montreal Trust Company of Canada and Montreal Trust Company X This Bill may be introduced in the Assembly and it may receive final passage before the twenty-first day of December 1997, except as Standing Order 22 may otherwise provide.

(Sessional Paper No. 1406-971218)

Mr. Baril (Berthier) then moved that leave be granted to introduce Private Bill 247, An Act respecting The Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company, Montreal Trust Company of Canada and Montreal Trust Company.

This motion was carried.

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On motion by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, Private Bill 247 was referred for consultations and clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee on Public Finance, of which the Minister of State for the Economy and Finance shall be a member during its deliberations in respect of the said Bill.

Presenting Papers

Mr. Landry, Minister of State for the Economy and Finance, tabled the following:

The Public Accounts of the Government of Québec, in three volumes, for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997, pursuant to section 71 of the *Financial Administration Act* (R.S.Q., c. A-6).

(Sessional Paper No. 1407-971218)

Mr. Chevrette, Minister of State for Natural Resources, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Société québécoise d'initiatives pétrolières (SOQUIP) for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1408-971218)

Mrs. Beaudoin, Minister of Culture and Communications and Minister responsible for the Charter of the French Language, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Commission de toponymie for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1409-971218)

Mr. Brassard, Minister of Transport, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Conseil de la recherche et du développement en transport for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1410-971218)

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The annual report of the Société des traversiers du Québec for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1411-971218)

Mr. Simard, Minister of International Relations, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Ministère des Relations internationales for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1412-971218)

Mr. Boisclair, Minister of Relations with the Citizens and Immigration, tabled the following:

The annual report of the Conseil des relations interculturelles for the fiscal year ended 31 March 1997.

(Sessional Paper No. 1413-971218)

Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Revenue, tabled the following:

The statistical summary regarding the renunciation and cancellation of penalties, interest and charges, pursuant to section 94.1 of the *Act respecting the Ministère du Revenu*.

(Sessional Paper No. 1414-971218)

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Landry (Bonaventure) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Institutions, which, on 17 December 1997, heard the interested parties with respect to the following Private Bill and examined this Bill clause-by-clause:

224 An Act respecting the adoption of Rémi Julien — Reported with certain

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amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 1415-971218)

The report was concurred in.

Mr. Baril (Arthabaska) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which, on 17 December 1997, heard the interested parties with respect to the following Private Bill and examined this Bill clause-by-clause:

259 An Act respecting the Fondation du Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal
– Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 1416-971218)

The report was concurred in.

Mrs. Bélanger (Mégantic-Compton) tabled the following reports from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, which:

X On 9, 10, 12 and 16 December 1997, held special consultations on Bill 171, An Act respecting the Ministère des Régions;

(Sessional Paper No. 1417-971218)

X On 16 and 17 December 1997, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

171 An Act respecting the Ministère des Régions – Reported with certain amendments.

(Sessional Paper No. 1418-971218)

X On 17 December 1997, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bills:

198 An Act respecting Municipalité régionale de comté de Maria-Chapdelaine –
Reported with an amendment.

(Sessional Paper No. 1419-971218)

197 An Act respecting the Agence de développement du Centre de villégiature de
Mont-Tremblant – Reported with certain amendments, including one to the

title.

(Sessional Paper No. 1420-971218)

- X On 17 December 1997, heard the interested parties with respect to the following Private Bills and examined these Bills clause-by-clause:

226 An Act respecting Ville de Varennes – Reported with certain amendments.
(Sessional Paper No. 1421-971218)

256 An Act respecting Ville de Blainville – Reported without amendment.
(Sessional Paper No. 1422-971218)

261 An Act respecting Ville de Shawinigan – Reported with certain amendments.
(Sessional Paper No. 1423-971218)

260 An Act respecting Ville d=Otterburn Park – Reported with certain amendments.
(Sessional Paper No. 1424-971218)

These reports were concurred in.

Mrs. Blackburn (Chicoutimi) tabled the following reports from the Committee on Education, which:

- X On 17 December 1997, heard the interested parties with respect to the following Private Bill and examined this Bill clause-by-clause:

248 An Act to amend the Act respecting the Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec – Reported without amendment.
(Sessional Paper No. 1425-971218)

The report was concurred in.

- X On 4 and 5 December 1997, held special consultations on Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions.
(Sessional Paper No. 1426-971218)

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Kelley (Jacques-Cartier) tabled the following:

The abstract of a petition respecting a public hearing on the prescription drug insurance programme and signed by 650 citizens from the western part of the island of Montréal.

(Sessional Paper No. 1427-971218)

Complaints of Breach of Privilege or Contempt and Personal Explanations

Mr. President rendered the following decision on the complaint of breach of privilege or contempt that had been raised by Mr. Vallières, the Member for Richmond, on Tuesday, 16 December 1997. According to Mr. Vallières, the Minister of State for Natural Resources and Minister responsible for Regional Development and the Secrétariat au développement des régions allegedly were in contempt of Parliament by setting up the implementation procedure of the local development centres X referred to as LCDs X before the passage of Bill 171, An Act respecting the Ministère des Régions, in the Assembly. In support of his question, the Member for Richmond provided papers issued by the Secrétariat au développement des régions.

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The facts adduced by the Member for Richmond in support of his question do not constitute, *prima facie*, a contempt of Parliament.

Upon examination of the documentation transmitted by the Member for Richmond, it is evident that the advertisement and information communiques issued by the Secrétariat au développement des régions aim first and foremost to inform the public on the Government policy with respect to local and regional development support, which more specifically comprises the setting up of local development centres. None of these documents contains passages announcing immediate consequences of Bill 171.

On numerous occasions, the Chair has stated, in its rulings, that there is nothing blameworthy in the fact that the Government or the administration wishes to inform the public on its policies and programmes. Thus, despite any connection between Bill 171 and the facts adduced by the Member for Richmond, these facts have no impact on the legislative procedure leading to the passage of the said Bill by the National Assembly. Indeed, throughout the different stages for the passage of this Bill, the Members have the possibility of moving amendments or refusing its passage.

The matter of the Government or public agencies advertising or issuing information communiques with regard to legislative measures still under consideration at the National Assembly often surfaces at the Assembly. With regard to this question, the Chair reiterates its often-repeated wish that all publicity on legislative measures that have not yet been passed mention the role of Parliament and of its Members.

Oral Questions and Answers

The Assembly proceeded to Oral Question Period.

By leave of the Assembly to set aside Standing Order 59, Mr. Chagnon (Westmount—Saint-Louis) tabled the following:

A copy of a letter, dated 9 October 1997, sent to Mr. Pierre Roy, Secretary of the Conseil du trésor, by Mr. Alain Major, Clerk of the Committee on Public Administration, regarding the Programme d'investissement en démarrage d'entreprises.

(Sessional Paper No. 1428-971218)

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

A copy of a legal opinion from DeBlois & Associés, Québec barristers, regarding the Québec Government special constables (classification 303).

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(Sessional Paper No. 1429-971218)

Deferred Divisions

The Assembly took the division, which had been deferred at the sitting of 17 December 1997, on the motion moved by Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, for the passage of Bill 175, An Act to again amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 186 in Appendix)

Yeas: **68** Nays: **45** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 175 was passed.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Paradis, Official Opposition House Leader, moved:

THAT the National Assembly offer its sincere congratulations to Mrs. Maryse Legault, wife of the Member for Châteauguay, who gave birth, last night, to the couple=s first child, who shall be named Angéline, and wish a speedy recovery to the father.

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

At 12.21 o'clock p.m., by leave of the Assembly, Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, having left the

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Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 3.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 3.02 o'clock p.m.

Motions Without Notice

Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, moved:

THAT owing to the urgency of the situation and in order to permit the introduction and passage of Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act, and the passage of the following Bills:

- Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions;
- Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions;
- Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students;
- Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions;
- Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation;
- Bill 183, An Act respecting the budget of Ville de Montréal;
- Bill 176, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Act respecting the Régie de

l=assurance-maladie du Québec;

The following Standing Orders be suspended until the aforementioned Bills shall have been passed:

19 (second paragraph), 20 to 22, 53 (the words "and personal explanations", in the fourth paragraph, as well as the seventh paragraph), 54 (the first, second, third and fifth paragraphs), 71 to 73, 84 (second and third paragraphs), 86 (the words "or at the request of some other Member", in the first paragraph, as well as the second paragraph), 87 (second, third and eighth paragraphs), 88 to 94, 100 and 101, 105 to 108, 110 to 114, 157, 164 and 165, 175 and 176, 177 (the words "and its observations, conclusions, or recommendations to the Assembly, if there be any"), 194 and 195, 205 to 210, 212, 213, 215, 216, 220, 222, 230, 232, 233 (the words "when the appropriate item of the Routine Proceedings is entered upon"), 236 and 237, 239 (second paragraph), 240 and 241, 243, 244 (second paragraph), 245 and 246, 247, 248 (the words "and the bill shall thereupon be set down for final passage on a future sitting day", in the second paragraph), 249 to 251, 252 (first paragraph), 253 (first and third paragraphs), 254, 256 (second and third paragraphs), 257 and 304 to 307;

Immediately the present motion is carried, the Assembly shall be permitted to conclude Routine Proceedings and enter upon Orders of the Day to give consideration to Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act, and to continue the consideration of the following Bills:

- Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions;
- Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions;
- Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students;
- Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions;
- Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation;

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- Bill 183, An Act respecting the budget of Ville de Montréal;
- Bill 176, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec;

Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 53, immediately the present motion is carried, the Standing Committee on Public Finance shall conclude its proceedings with respect to the clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions, and table its report in the Assembly;

Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 53, immediately the present motion is carried, the Standing Committee on Education shall conclude its proceedings with respect to the clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students, and of Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions, and table its report in the Assembly;

Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 53, immediately the present motion is carried, the Standing Committee on Planning and the Public Domain shall conclude its proceedings with respect to the clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation, and table its report in the Assembly;

Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 53, a Minister shall be permitted to introduce Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act, during Orders of the Day;

Subsequently, the debate on the passage in principle of Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act, shall last not more than forty minutes, which period shall be allotted as follows: fifteen minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, fifteen minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, five minutes to the independent Members and five minutes to the Minister presenting the Bill for his reply; voting on the passage in principle of the Bill shall be by a show of hands unless five Members demand a recorded division;

The Assembly shall continue the debate on the passage in principle of Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions, shall last not more than forty minutes,

which period shall be allotted as follows: fifteen minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, fifteen minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, five minutes to the independent Members and five minutes to the Minister presenting the Bill for his reply; voting on the passage in principle of the Bill shall be by a show of hands unless five Members demand a recorded division;

The clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act, and of Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions, in Committee of the Whole shall last not more than forty-five minutes after the beginning of its proceedings; the questions for adoption of the sections considered and the amendments handed in shall be put forthwith, and recorded divisions may not be demanded thereon;

Upon the expiry of this time limit, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole shall put the questions forthwith, without debate and without recorded division, on the sections and on the amendments that the Committee has not disposed of, including the amendments the Minister presenting the Bill may not have been able to move during clause-by-clause consideration but which shall be transmitted to the Chairman of the Committee at this time, the title and headings of the Bill and he shall report to the Assembly, without consultation of the Committee nor the Assembly; the question on such report shall be put without recorded division;

Any Member shall be permitted to hand in to the office of the Secretary General, no later than thirty minutes after the reports on Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions, Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students, Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions, and Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation, are tabled, a copy of such amendments as he wishes to propose thereto;

The debate on the consideration of a report from a Standing Committee and on the amendments already handed in or handed in in compliance with the present motion shall last not more than fourteen minutes, immediately the present motion is carried, which period shall be allotted as follows: five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, two minutes to the independent Members, and two minutes

shall be allotted for a reply by the Minister presenting the Bill;

The debate on the consideration of the report from the Standing Committee on Social Affairs on Bill 176, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec, shall continue for not more than fourteen minutes, which period shall be allotted as follows: five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, two minutes to the independent Members, and two minutes shall be allotted for a reply by the Minister;

At the conclusion of the debate on the consideration of a Standing Committee report, the questions for adoption of the amendments already handed in or handed in in compliance with the present motion shall be put successively, in the order indicated by the President, and recorded divisions may not be demanded; the sections of the Bill as amended, the sections of the Bill that the Standing Committee shall not have disposed of, the title and other headings of the Bill and the Committee report, amended or not, shall then be voted on, and recorded divisions may not be demanded;

The debate on the final passage of a Bill shall last not more than fourteen minutes, which period shall be allotted as follows: five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, two minutes to the independent Members, and two minutes shall be allotted for a reply by the Minister presenting the Bill; voting on the passage of a Bill shall be by a show of hands unless five Members demand a recorded division;

A Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader may move at any time during the debate on the passage of a Bill that the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider amendments that he indicates; the question on such motion, which requires no notice and may be neither amended nor debated, shall be put forthwith, and a recorded division may not be demanded thereon; the debate in Committee of the Whole shall be limited to consideration of the proposed amendments; the debate in Committee of the Whole shall last not more than fifteen minutes, which period shall be allotted as follows: five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Government, five minutes to the parliamentary group forming the Official Opposition, three minutes to the independent Members and two minutes to the Minister presenting the Bill for his reply, at the end of which period the question shall be put forthwith on the amendments, without debate and without

recorded division, as well as on the amendments the Minister presenting the Bill may not have been able to move during clause-by-clause consideration; after which the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole shall report to the Assembly, without consultation of the Committee nor the Assembly; the question on such report shall be put without recorded division;

A Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader may move that the Assembly resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole; the question on such motion, which requires no notice and may be neither amended nor debated, shall be put forthwith, and a recorded division may not be demanded thereon;

A Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader may move, more than once during the same sitting, that the Committee of the Whole report progress to the Assembly and ask leave to sit again; the question on such motion, which requires no notice and may be neither amended nor debated, shall be put forthwith, and a recorded division may not be demanded thereon;

A Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader shall be permitted to move the adjournment of the debate at any time of the sitting; the question on such motion, which requires no notice and may be neither amended nor debated, shall be put forthwith, and a recorded division may not be demanded thereon;

A Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader shall be permitted to move the adjournment of the sitting at any time; the question on such motion, which requires no notice and may be neither amended nor debated, shall be put forthwith, and a recorded division may not be demanded thereon;

A Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader shall be permitted to move the withdrawal of a motion at any time of the sitting; the question on such motion, which requires no notice and may be neither amended nor debated, shall be put forthwith, and a recorded division may not be demanded thereon;

In addition to the provisions of this motion, all voting shall be by a show of hands unless a Minister or a Deputy Government House Leader demands a recorded division;

The Assembly shall be granted leave to meet each day at 10.00 o'clock a.m. and to continue sitting until it shall decide to adjourn its proceedings;

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Subject to the foregoing, the provisions of the Standing Orders of the Assembly relating to extended hours of meeting shall apply; and

The rules hereinbefore specified shall remain in force until the following Bills shall have been passed:

- Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act;
- Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions;
- Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions;
- Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students;
- Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions;
- Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation;
- Bill 183, An Act respecting the budget of Ville de Montréal;
- Bill 176, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec.

At 3.17 o'clock p.m., Mr. President suspended the proceedings to allow the Members to examine the motion to suspend certain rules of procedure moved by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader.

The proceeding resumed at 4.18 o'clock p.m.

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At 4.48 o'clock p.m., after having heard comments from both sides on the receivability of the motion to suspend certain rules of procedure moved by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, Mr. President took the matter under advisement and, for this purpose, suspended the proceedings.

The proceedings resumed at 5.57 o'clock p.m.

Mr. President informed the Assembly that he was prepared to render his decision on the receivability of the motion to suspend certain rules of procedure.

At 6.02 o'clock p.m., Mr. President, having left the Chair, the proceedings were suspended until 8.00 o'clock p.m.

The proceedings resumed at 8.02 o'clock p.m.

Mr. President rendered the following decision on the receivability of the motion to suspend certain rules of procedure:

RULING FROM THE CHAIR

The motion is in order on the following grounds:

It is possible, by means of a motion to suspend certain rules of procedure, to suspend the rules relating to the allocation of speaking time as stipulated in Standing Order 209.

The Standing Orders relating to the suspension of certain rules of procedure are not inconsistent with the Act respecting the National Assembly since they were adopted under section 9 of this statute, which states that the rules of procedure of the Assembly are established by the Assembly, and it alone has the authority to see that they are observed.

The maintaining of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Standing Order 53 is not inconsistent with the provisions of the motion which allow the introduction of a bill and the tabling of committee reports during Orders of the Day.

The motion is not contrary to Standing Order 174 since the object of the motion is not to request that a committee conclude a sitting but that it conclude its mandate and report to the Assembly.

Finally, the motion is not contrary to section 83 of the Election Act since its objective is not to amend this statute but rather to allow the consideration of a bill that, itself, has the objective of amending the Election Act.

Following a meeting with the House leaders, Mr. President announced the allocation of speaking time for the proceedings with respect to this limited debate on the motion moved by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader: 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 or by the independent Members may be redistributed, and individual addresses shall not otherwise be limited.

And debate arising on the motion by Mr. Jolivet;

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

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 187 in Appendix)

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Yeas: **63** Nays: **36** Abstentions: **0**

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Presenting Reports from Committees

Mr. Baril (Arthabaska) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Public Finance, which met on 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9 December 1997 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

161 An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions – the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill was not concluded.

(Sessional Paper No. 1430-971218)

Mr. Paré (Lotbinière) tabled the following reports from the Committee on Education which:

X On 8, 9, 12 and 15 December 1997, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

180 An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions – the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill was not concluded.

(Sessional Paper No. 1431-971218)

X On 16 December 1997, gave clause-by-clause consideration to the following Bill:

170 An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students – the clause-

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by-clause consideration of the Bill was not concluded.
(Sessional Paper No. 1432-971218)

Mr. Laurin (Bourget) tabled the following:

A report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain, which met on 8 December 1997 for clause-by-clause consideration of the following Bill:

173 An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation – the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill was not concluded.

(Sessional Paper No. 1433-971218)

Introduction of Bills

Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, moved that leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:

407 An Act to amend the Election Act.

The motion was carried on division.

Government Bills

Passage in Principle

Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, moved, –That

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Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act, do now pass in principle.

After debate thereon, the question was put on this motion; a recorded division was thereupon demanded.

The motion was carried on the following vote:

(Division No. 188 in Appendix)

Yeas: **62** Nays: **1** Abstentions: **0**

Accordingly, Bill 407 was passed in principle.

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

Resuming the debate on the motion by Mr. Jolivet, Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, —That Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions, do now pass in principle;

The debate being concluded, the motion was carried and Bill 185 was accordingly passed in principle.

On motion by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, Bill 185 was referred for clause-by-clause consideration to the Committee of the Whole.

Committee of the Whole

On motion by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader, the Assembly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various

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legislative provisions, and of Bill 407, An Act to amend the Election Act.

Bill 185 and Bill 407 were considered in Committee of the Whole, amended and thereupon reported.

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The reports were concurred in on division.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Education on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act respecting financial assistance for students, together with the amendments handed in by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education, and by Mr. Gauthrin (Verdun).

The amendments were declared receivable.

The amendments by Mrs. Marois were agreed to on division and the amendments by Mr. Gauthrin were negatived.

The sections of the Bill, as amended, were adopted on division.

The sections of the Bill that the Committee on Education had not disposed of, as well as the title and headings of the Bill were adopted on division.

The report, as amended, was concurred in on division.

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation, together with the amendment handed in by Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs.

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The amendment was declared receivable.

The amendment by Mr. Trudel was carried on division.

The section of the Bill, as amended, was adopted on division.

The sections of the Bill that the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain had not disposed of, as well as the title and headings of the Bill were adopted on division.

Sections I, II and III of the Appendix were adopted on division.

The report, as amended, was concurred in on division.

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Education on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions, together with the amendments handed in by Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education.

The amendments were declared receivable.

The amendments by Mrs. Marois were agreed to on division.

The sections of the Bill, as amended, were adopted on division.

The sections of the Bill that the Committee on Education had not disposed of, as well as the title and headings of the Bill were adopted on division.

The report, as amended, was concurred in on division.

Passage

Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education, moved the passage of Bill 170, An Act to amend the Act

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respecting financial assistance for students.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 170 was passed.

—————

Mrs. Marois, Minister of Education, moved the passage of Bill 180, An Act to amend the Education Act and various legislative provisions.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 180 was passed.

—————

Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, moved the passage of Bill 173, An Act to establish the special local activities financing fund and to amend the Act respecting municipal taxation.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 173 was passed.

Report Stage

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 183, An Act respecting the budget of Ville de Montréal, together with the amendment handed in by Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The amendment was declared receivable.

The amendment by Mr. Trudel was carried on division.

The section of the Bill, as amended, was adopted on division.

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The sections of the Bill that the Committee on Planning and the Public Domain had not disposed of, as well as the title and headings of the Bill were adopted on division.

The report, as amended, was concurred in on division.

Resuming the debate on the consideration of the report from the Committee on Social Affairs on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 176, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec.

The debate being concluded, the report was concurred in on division.

The Assembly took into consideration the report from the Committee on Public Finance on its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions, together with the amendments handed in by Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Revenue.

The amendments were declared receivable.

The amendments by Mrs. Marsolais were agreed to on division.

The sections of the Bill, as amended, were adopted on division.

The sections of the Bill that the Committee on Public Finance had not disposed of, as well as the title and headings of the Bill were adopted on division.

The report, as amended, was concurred in on division.

Passage

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Mrs. Dionne-Marsolais, Minister for Revenue, moved the passage of Bill 161, An Act to again amend the Taxation Act, the Act respecting the Québec Sales Tax and other legislative provisions.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 161 was passed.

Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, moved the passage of Bill 407, An Act respecting the temporary replacement of the chief electoral officer (*modified title*).

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 407 was passed.

Mr. Jolivet, Minister for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, moved the passage of Bill 185, An Act respecting the election of the first commissioners of the new school boards and amending various legislative provisions.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 185 was passed.

Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, moved the passage of Bill 183, An Act respecting the budget of Ville de Montréal.

After debate thereon, the motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 183 was passed.

Mr. Rochon, Minister of Health and Social Services, moved the passage of Bill 176, An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and the Act

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respecting the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec.

The motion was carried on division and, accordingly, Bill 176 was passed.

At 12.52 o'clock a.m., Mr. Brouillet, Vice-President, adjourned the Assembly until 10.00 o'clock a.m., on Friday, 19 December 1997.

ROYAL ASSENT

On Thursday, 18 December 1997, at 2.12 o'clock p.m., in the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor, in the presence of Mr. Ménard, Minister of Justice, and of Mrs. Leduc (Mille-Îles), the Delegates of the Prime Minister, of Mrs. Loiselle (Saint-Henri-Sainte-Anne), the Delegate of the Leader of the Official Opposition, and of Mr. Bédard, Director of the Secretariat of the Assembly, the Honourable Lise Thibault, Lieutenant-Governor of Québec, was pleased to assent to the following Bills:

- 39 An Act respecting the protection of persons whose mental state presents a danger to themselves or to others (*modified title*);
- 151 An Act to amend the Courts of Justice Act;
- 154 An Act to amend the Public Health Protection Act;
- 157 An Act to amend the Act to ensure safety in guided land transport;
- 160 An Act to amend the Act respecting safety in sports and other legislative provisions;
- 163 An Act to amend the Public Curator Act and other legislative provisions relating to

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property under the provisional administration of the Public Curator;

164 An Act to amend the Act to facilitate the payment of support;

177 An Act to amend the Act respecting the determination of the causes and circumstances of death;

178 An Act to abolish certain bodies;

184 An Act respecting the remuneration of judges.

JEAN-PIERRE CHARBONNEAU

President

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APPENDIX

Recorded Divisions

On the motion moved by Mrs. Harel, Minister of State for Employment and Solidarity, to introduce Bill 186, An Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity:

(Division No. 185)

YEAS - 67

Barbeau	Caron	Lachance	Paré
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Landry	Payne
<i>(Arthabaska)</i>	Charest	<i>(Bonaventure)</i>	Pelletier
Baril	Chevrette	Landry	Perreault
<i>(Berthier)</i>	Cliche	<i>(Verchères)</i>	Rioux
Beaudoin	Côté	Laprise	Rivard
Bégin	Désilets	Laurin	Robert
Bélanger	Deslières	Leduc	Rochon
<i>(Anjou)</i>	Dion	Léger	Saint-André
Bertrand	Dionne-Marsolais	Lelièvre	Signori
<i>(Charlevoix)</i>	Doyer	Léonard	Simard
Bertrand	Duguay	Létourneau	<i>(Richelieu)</i>
<i>(Portneuf)</i>	Dumont	Malavoy	Trudel
Blackburn	Facal	Marois	Vermette
Blais	Filion	Ménard	
Boisclair	Gagnon	Morin	
Bouchard	Gendron	<i>(Dubuc)</i>	
Boucher	Harel	Morin	
Boulerice	Jolivet	<i>(Nicolet-Yamaska)</i>	
Brassard	Julien	Papineau	
Campeau	Jutras	Paquin	

NAYS - 43

Bécharde	Benoit	Bordeleau	Chagnon
Bélanger	Bergman	Bourbeau	Chalifoux
<i>(Mégantic-Compton)</i>	Bissonnet	Brodeur	Chenail

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Cherry	Gautrin	Leblanc	Mulcair
Ciaccia	Gauvin	Lefebvre	Ouimet
Copeman	Gobé	LeSage	Paradis
Cusano	Houda-Pepin	Loiselle	Poulin
Delisle	Johnson	Maciocia	Sirros
Farrah	Kelley	MacMillan	Vaive
Frulla	Lafrenière	Marsan	Vallières
Gagnon-Tremblay	Lamquin-Éthier	Middlemiss	Williams

ABSTENTIONS - 0

On the motion by Mr. Trudel, Minister of Municipal Affairs, for the passage of Bill 175, An Act to again amend various legislative provisions concerning municipal affairs:

(Division No. 186)

YEAS - 68

Barbeau	Boucher	Facal	Léger
Baril	Boulerice	Gagnon	Lelièvre
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Brassard	Garon	Léonard
Baril	Brien	Gaulin	Létourneau
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Campeau	Gendron	Malavoy
Beaudoin	Caron	Harel	Marois
Beaumier	Carrier-Perreault	Jolivet	Ménard
Bégin	Charest	Julien	Morin
Bélanger	Chevrette	Jutras	(<i>Dubuc</i>)
(<i>Anjou</i>)	Cliche	Lachance	Morin
Bertrand	Côté	Landry	(<i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i>)
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Désilets	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)	Papineau
Bertrand	Deslières	Landry	Paquin
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Dion	(<i>Verchères</i>)	Paré
Blais	Dionne-Marsolais	Laprise	Payne
Boisclair	Doyer	Laurin	Pelletier
Bouchard	Duguay	Leduc	Perreault

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Rioux	Rochon	Simard	Vermette
Rivard	Saint-André	(<i>Richelieu</i>)	
Robert	Signori	Trudel	

NAYS - 45

Béchar	Cherry	Gobé	Marsan
Bélanger	Ciaccia	Houda-Pepin	Middlemiss
(<i>Mégantic-Compton</i>)	Copeman	Johnson	Mulcair
Benoit	Cusano	Kelley	Ouimet
Bergman	Delisle	Lafrenière	Paradis
Bissonnet	Dumont	Lamquin-Éthier	Poulin
Bordeleau	Farrar	Leblanc	Sirros
Bourbeau	Filion	Lefebvre	Vaive
Brodeur	Frulla	LeSage	Vallières
Chagnon	Gagnon-Tremblay	Loiselle	Williams
Chalifoux	Gautrin	Maciocia	
Chenail	Gauvin	MacMillan	

ABSTENTIONS - 0

On the motion to suspend certain rules of procedure moved by Mr. Jolivet, Government House Leader:

(Division No. 187)

YEAS - 63

Barbeau	Bélanger	Boisclair	Carrier-Perreault
Baril	(<i>Anjou</i>)	Boucher	Charest
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Bertrand	Boulerice	Chevrette
Baril	(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Brassard	Cliche
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Bertrand	Brien	Côté
Beaumier	(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Campeau	Désilets
Bégin	Blais	Caron	Deslières
Dion	Dionne-Marsolais	Doyer	Duguay

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Facal	Landry	Marois	Rivard
Gagnon	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)	Ménard	Robert
Gaulin	Landry	Morin	Rochon
Gendron	(<i>Verchères</i>)	(<i>Dubuc</i>)	Saint-André
Jolivet	Laprise	Morin	Signori
Julien	Laurin	(<i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i>)	Simard
Jutras	Leduc	Papineau	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Lachance	Léger	Paquin	Trudel
	Lelièvre	Paré	Vermette
	Léonard	Payne	
	Létourneau	Pelletier	
	Malavoy	Perreault	

NAYS - 36

Béchar	Copeman	Houda-Pepin	Middlemiss
Bélanger	Cusano	Johnson	Paradis
(<i>Mégantic-Compton</i>)	Delisle	Kelley	Poulin
Benoit	Dumont	Lafrenière	Sirros
Bergman	Farrar	Lamquin-Éthier	Vaive
Bissonnet	Frulla	Leblanc	Vallières
Bordeleau	Gagnon-Tremblay	Lefebvre	Williams
Bourbeau	Gautrin	Loiselle	
Chalifoux	Gauvin	Maciocia	
Cherry	Gobé	MacMillan	

ABSTENTIONS - 0

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On the motion by Mr. Chevrette, Minister responsible for Electoral and Parliamentary Reform, for the passage in principle of Bill 407, An Act respecting the temporary replacement of the chief electoral officer (*modified title*):

(Division No. 188)

YEAS - 62

Barbeau	Brien	Harel	Morin
Baril	Campeau	Jolivet	(<i>Nicolet-Yamaska</i>)
(<i>Arthabaska</i>)	Caron	Julien	Papineau
Baril	Carrier-Perreault	Jutras	Paquin
(<i>Berthier</i>)	Charest	Lachance	Paré
Beaudoin	Chevrette	Landry	Payne
Beaumier	Cliche	(<i>Bonaventure</i>)	Pelletier
Bégin	Côté	Laprise	Perreault
Bélanger	Désilets	Laurin	Rivard
(<i>Anjou</i>)	Deslières	Leduc	Robert
Bertrand	Dion	Léger	Rochon
(<i>Charlevoix</i>)	Dionne-Marsolais	Lelièvre	Saint-André
Bertrand	Doyer	Létourneau	Signori
(<i>Portneuf</i>)	Duguay	Malavoy	Simard
Blais	Facal	Marois	(<i>Richelieu</i>)
Boisclair	Gagnon	Ménard	Trudel
Boucher	Gaulin	Morin	Vermette
Boulerice	Gendron	(<i>Dubuc</i>)	

NAYS - 1

Dumont

ABSTENTIONS - 0