

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

FORTIETH LEGISLATURE

Bill 33

An Act to amend the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly

Introduction

Introduced by Mr. Bernard Drainville Minister responsible for Democratic Institutions and Active Citizenship

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly is amended in order to eliminate the transition allowance granted to Members who resign during their term of office. Exceptionally, a Member who has resigned may receive the allowance if the Office of the National Assembly is of the opinion that health reasons or family reasons prevent the Member from carrying out the duties of office. Before rendering its decision, the Office must obtain the advisory opinion of the Ethics Commissioner.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS BILL:

- Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-52.1).

Bill 33

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ACT RESPECTING THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT AND THE PENSION PLAN OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- **1.** Section 12 of the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-52.1) is replaced by the following sections:
- "12. A Member who is defeated in an election or who serves out his term as a Member but is not a candidate in the next election is entitled to a transition allowance.

Despite the first paragraph, a Member who has resigned and who so requests may, exceptionally, receive the allowance if the Office of the National Assembly is of the opinion that health reasons or family reasons prevent the Member from carrying out the duties of office.

"12.1. The Office of the National Assembly may not render its decision before obtaining the advisory opinion of the Ethics Commissioner appointed under the Code of ethics and conduct of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-23.1) and giving the resigning Member an opportunity to submit observations and, if the Member so requests, to be heard. The Office must specify in its decision whether the advisory opinion of the Ethics Commissioner is favourable or unfavourable with regard to granting a transition allowance.

For the purposes of the advisory opinion, the Ethics Commissioner shall conduct inquiries in private and with due dispatch. Sections 65, 70, 72 and 82 to 86, the second paragraph of section 87, section 93, the second paragraph of section 96 and section 101 of the Code as well as the rules applicable under section 71 of the Code apply, with the necessary modifications. In addition, the Ethics Commissioner shall give the resigning Member an opportunity to submit observations and, if the Member so requests, to be heard.

- "12.2. The President of the National Assembly shall lay the decision of the Office of the National Assembly before the National Assembly within the next 15 days or, if the Assembly is not sitting, within 15 days of resumption."
- **2.** Section 13 of the Act is amended by replacing "The allowance" at the beginning of the first paragraph by "The transition allowance".

3.	This Act comes into force on (insert the date of assent to this Act).