

Presenting a Petition at the Assemblée nationale du Québec



ASSEMBLÉE
NATIONALE
DU QUÉBEC

**Start, sign or consult a petition at
the Assemblée nationale du Québec?**

It's easy! On paper or on the web, use this guide
and make yourself heard!





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A Petition's Path

at the Assemblée nationale du Québec

Starting a petition is an excellent way to participate in Québec democracy! When your petition is presented to the Assemblée nationale, parliamentarians hear your request, and they may examine it. At the end of the process, you can receive a response from the government.



PRESENTING A PETITION

- Petitions that are deemed compliant can be presented to the Assemblée nationale by an MNA.
- Petitions are presented during Routine Proceedings.
- The MNA presenting a petition reads it aloud to the Assemblée nationale and tables its abstract, which contains the full text of the petition as well as the number of signatures.

Good to know!



Once presented, petitions are available in the [Consulting a Petition Presented in the Assemblée nationale](#) section of the Assemblée nationale website.



POSSIBLE EXAMINATION BY A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

- A committee has 15 days* to choose whether to examine a petition.
- The committee examining the petition can decide to hear the people responsible for the petition as well as other persons or bodies.
- The committee examining the petition must submit a report to the Assemblée nationale within 30 days.*

* The time limit may be extended on certain occasions, such as when the committees are considering the Government's budget estimates.



GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

- The Government must provide a response to all petitions presented to the Assemblée nationale.
- The tabling of written responses takes place during Routine Proceedings.
- The written response to a petition must be tabled within 30 days* of one of the following events:
 - a committee's decision not to examine the petition;
 - the expiry of the committee's time limit for choosing to examine the petition;
 - the tabling of the committee's report following the examination of the petition.

* If the Assemblée is not sitting when the time limit expires, the response is tabled not later than the third sitting after the resumption of proceedings.



Good to know!

Responses to petitions are posted on the [Consulting a Petition Presented in the Assemblée nationale](#) section of the Assemblée nationale website.

Starting an E-Petition

at the Assemblée nationale du Québec

A petition's purpose is to have the Québec State intervene in a situation within its jurisdiction. Starting a petition is an excellent way to participate in Québec democracy! The right to petition is set out in the Québec *Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms*.



CHOOSE AN MNA

- You can choose the MNA from your riding or any other MNA, with the exception of the President of the Assemblée nationale.
- Ministers usually abstain from presenting petitions.
- It is up to the MNA to decide whether to agree or to refuse to present your petition to the Assemblée nationale.



Good to know!

MNAs' contact information is available in the [Members](#) tab of the Assemblée nationale website.



WRITE YOUR PETITION

- Write your petition in French or in both French and English.
- First, present the facts. Each fact should begin with “As” or “Whereas”.
- Conclude with the request for redress or action: “We, the undersigned, ask the Government of Québec to...”.
- Use short sentences and simple terms to facilitate understanding.
- Make sure your e-petition can be presented to the Assemblée nationale. It must comply with the following criteria:
 - contain a request for redress or action on a matter that falls within the Québec State's jurisdiction;
 - be no longer than 250 words (excluding the title);
 - be started and signed on the Assemblée nationale website;

- not include unparliamentary language or language that attacks the conduct of an MNA;
- not use language that is violent, abusive or insulting;
- not refer to any matter that is before a court of law or is the subject of an inquiry.

Good to know!



Make sure your petition includes a request for redress or action that is different from the other petitions on the Assemblée nationale website. Otherwise, your petition will be unable to be posted online.



HAVE THE ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE APPROVE YOUR PETITION

- Send your petition (don't forget the English version, if applicable) to the MNA, who will then send it to the Assemblée nationale to make sure it can be presented.
- Keep an eye out. At this stage, you may be contacted if changes to your petition are required.



COLLECT SIGNATURES

- Your petition, if it is deemed compliant, can be posted to collect signatures on the website of the Assemblée nationale. It can remain posted for a period ranging from 7 days to 3 months.
- Your petition can be presented to the Assemblée nationale regardless of the number of signatures.
- Your petition will be presented not later than the third sitting following the end of the signing period.



Good to know!

Once your petition is posted online, it can be found in the [Signing an E-Petition](#) section of the Assemblée nationale website.

Starting a Paper Petition

at the Assemblée nationale du Québec

A petition's purpose is to have the Québec State intervene in a situation within its jurisdiction. Starting a petition is an excellent way to participate in Québec democracy! The right to petition is set out in the Québec *Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms*.



CHOOSE AN MNA

- You can choose the MNA from your riding or any other MNA, with the exception of the President of the Assemblée nationale.
- Ministers usually abstain from presenting petitions.
- It is up to the MNA to decide whether to agree or to refuse to present your petition to the Assemblée nationale.



Good to know!

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WRITE YOUR PETITION

- Write your petition in French, in English or in both languages.
- First, present the facts. Each fact should begin with "As" or "Whereas".
- Conclude with the request for redress or action: "We, the undersigned, ask the Government of Québec to...".
- Use short sentences and simple terms to facilitate understanding.
- Make sure your petition can be presented to the Assemblée nationale. It must comply with the following criteria:
 - contain a request for redress or action on a matter that falls within the Québec State's jurisdiction;
 - be no longer than 250 words (excluding the title);
 - be on ordinary size sheets of paper (8 ½ x 11 or 8 ½ x 14);
 - contain the text of the petition on all pages of signatures;





- contain the written signature of all petitioners;
- not include photocopies;
- not include unparliamentary language or language that attacks the conduct of an MNA;
- not use language that is violent, abusive or insulting;
- not refer to any matter that is before a court of law or is the subject of an inquiry.

Good to know!



You will find a petition template on the next page of this document. A tool to create a petition template in PDF format is also available [here](#).



COLLECT SIGNATURES

- You can collect signatures for as long as you want. There is no minimum number of signatures required for your petition to be presented to the Assemblée nationale.
- You must ensure all signatures are preceded by the first name, last name and city of residence of each petitioner.



HAVE THE ASSEMBLÉE NATIONALE APPROVE YOUR PETITION

- Are you done collecting signatures? Send the original version of your petition to the MNA, who will submit it to the Assemblée nationale for approval.
- Has your petition been deemed compliant? It can therefore be presented to the Assemblée nationale.



PAPER PETITION TEMPLATE

Petition Title

AS ...;

AS ...;

AS ...;

AS ...;

We, the undersigned, ask the Government of Québec to...

First and last name	City	Signature

assnat.qc.ca/petitions





ASSEMBLÉE
NATIONALE
DU QUÉBEC