



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 25
(2019, chapter 19)

An Act to amend mainly the Firearms Registration Act

**Introduced 14 May 2019
Passed in principle 17 September 2019
Passed 24 October 2019
Assented to 30 October 2019**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Act amends the Firearms Registration Act to remove the obligation, for a person in possession of a firearm, to provide the firearm's registration number on request.

In addition, any person in possession of a firearm that is not registered in accordance with that Act is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine.

The Act establishes that, in cases of judicial proceedings, the presence of a firearm in the territory of Québec constitutes, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, proof of its presence in that territory for more than 45 days.

The Act also amends the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife to enable wildlife protection officers to enforce all provisions of the Firearms Registration Act and to grant them the power to issue, to the owner of a firearm not registered, a notice requiring the owner to apply for registration of the firearm. Firearm owners who fail to apply for registration and provide proof of having done so to a wildlife protection officer within 14 days after receiving such a notice are guilty of an offence and are liable to a fine.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS ACT:

- Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1);
- Firearms Registration Act (chapter I-0.01).

Bill 25

AN ACT TO AMEND MAINLY THE FIREARMS REGISTRATION ACT

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

FIREARMS REGISTRATION ACT

- 1.** Section 8 of the Firearms Registration Act (chapter I-0.01) is repealed.
- 2.** Section 9 of the Act is amended by replacing “who has a firearm in his or her possession” by “in possession of a firearm”.
- 3.** Section 10 of the Act is amended
 - (1) by replacing “an offence has been committed under section 2” by “a person is in possession of a firearm that is not registered in accordance with this Act”;
 - (2) by striking out “concerned”.
- 4.** Section 11 of the Act is amended by replacing “that no offence was committed under section 2” in the first paragraph by “that the firearm is registered in accordance with this Act”.
- 5.** Section 16 of the Act is amended by replacing “Whoever contravenes any of sections 2, 3, 6, 7 and 13” in the introductory clause by “Any owner of a firearm to which this Act applies who contravenes section 3, 6 or 7, or any firearms business that contravenes section 13,”.
- 6.** Section 17 of the Act is replaced by the following section:

“**17.** Any person in possession of a firearm that is not registered in accordance with this Act is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine of

 - (1) \$500 to \$5,000 in the case of a natural person; and
 - (2) \$1,500 to \$15,000 in all other cases.

In any proceedings instituted under this section, the presence of a firearm in the territory of Québec constitutes, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, proof of its presence in that territory for more than 45 days.”

7. Section 21 of the Act is amended by replacing “2” in the first paragraph by “3 or 17”.

ACT RESPECTING THE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF WILDLIFE

8. Section 5 of the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1) is amended by striking out “section 9 of” in subparagraph 10 of the first paragraph.

9. The Act is amended by inserting the following section after section 13.1:

“13.1.1. A wildlife protection officer may issue a notice requiring the owner of a firearm that is not registered in accordance with the Firearms Registration Act (chapter I-0.01) to apply for its registration.

A firearm owner who refuses or neglects to apply for registration of the firearm and provide proof of having done so to a wildlife protection officer within 14 days after receiving such a notice is guilty of an offence and is liable to the fine set out in section 16 of the Firearms Registration Act.”

10. This Act comes into force on 30 October 2019, except sections 8 and 9, which come into force on 1 December 2019.