

Summary

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Partie 2 "Lois et règlements": \$711
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The Division of the Gazette officielle du Québec must receive manuscripts, at the latest, by 11:00 a.m. on the Monday preceding the week of publication. Requests received after that time will appear in the following edition. All requests must be accompanied by a signed manuscript. In addition, the electronic version of each notice to be published must be provided by e-mail, to the following address: gazette.officielle@cspq.gouv.qc.ca

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PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC

1ST SESSION

42ND LEGISLATURE

QUÉBEC, 7 DECEMBER 2018

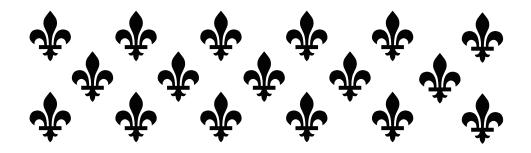
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Québec, 7 December 2018

This day, at two o'clock in the afternoon, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to assent to the following bill:

4 An Act to ratify the Agreement relating to the concept of parliamentary group, to the conduct of proceedings in the Assembly and in parliamentary committees as well as to budgetary aspects for the duration of the 42nd Legislature

To this bill the Royal assent was affixed by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

FIRST SESSION

FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Bill 4 (2018, chapter 28)

An Act to ratify the Agreement relating to the concept of parliamentary group, to the conduct of proceedings in the Assembly and in parliamentary committees as well as to budgetary aspects for the duration of the 42nd Legislature

Introduced 7 December 2018
Passed in principle 7 December 2018
Passed 7 December 2018
Assented to 7 December 2018

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The purpose of this Act is to ratify the Agreement relating to the concept of parliamentary group, to the conduct of proceedings in the Assembly and in parliamentary committees as well as to budgetary aspects for the duration of the 42nd Legislature.

The Act modifies the composition of the Office of the National Assembly for the duration of the 42nd Legislature to include, in addition to the President of the National Assembly, six members from the Government party, three from the Official Opposition party and one from each of the other opposition parties represented in the National Assembly following the 1 October 2018 general election.

The Act also modifies, for the same duration, the conditions for opposition parties other than the Official Opposition party to be entitled to the parliamentary offices of Leader and House Leader, thus granting that possibility to all the parties represented in the National Assembly following the last general election.

Lastly, the Act empowers the Office of the National Assembly to make any regulation necessary to implement these changes; such a regulation may be retroactive to the date of the beginning of the 42nd Legislature.

LEGISLATION AMENDED BY THIS ACT:

- Act respecting the National Assembly (chapter A-23.1);
- Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-52.1).

Bill 4

AN ACT TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE CONCEPT OF PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, TO THE CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE ASSEMBLY AND IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES AS WELL AS TO BUDGETARY ASPECTS FOR THE DURATION OF THE 42ND LEGISLATURE

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

ACT RESPECTING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. Section 87 of the Act respecting the National Assembly (chapter A-23.1) is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"For the duration of the 42nd Legislature, the first paragraph is amended by replacing "nine" by "eleven"."

2. Section 88 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"For the duration of the 42nd Legislature, the first paragraph is amended

- (1) by replacing "five" in paragraph 1 by "six";
- (2) by replacing paragraph 2 by the following paragraph:
- "(2) three from the Official Opposition party and one from each of the other opposition parties represented in the Assembly following the 1 October 2018 general election."."
- **3.** Section 97 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"For the duration of the 42nd Legislature, the first paragraph is amended by replacing "Five" by "Six"."

4. Section 124.1 of the Act is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"For the duration of the 42nd Legislature, the first paragraph is amended by replacing ", the Chief Official Opposition Whip and the Whip of a party contemplated in subparagraph 6 of the first paragraph of section 7 of the said Act," by "and the Chief Official Opposition Whip"."

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

5. Section 7 of the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-52.1) is amended by replacing the third paragraph by the following paragraph:

"For the duration of the 42nd Legislature, the first paragraph is amended

- (1) by replacing subparagraph 6 by the following subparagraph:
- "(6) any Member, other than the Member contemplated in subparagraph 4, who leads an opposition party represented in the Assembly following the 1 October 2018 general election shall receive on an annual basis an indemnity equal to 35% of the annual indemnity;";
- (2) by striking out "Whip of a party contemplated in paragraph 6," in subparagraph 11."

MISCELLANEOUS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

6. For the purposes of the second paragraph of section 88 of the Act respecting the National Assembly (chapter A-23.1), as amended by section 2, the additional members and substitute members must be designated not later than 17 December 2018.

If a list of Members has already been adopted in accordance with section 91 of the Act respecting the National Assembly at the time the additional members and substitute members are designated, the President of the National Assembly submits the list of those additional members to the Assembly, which adopts or rejects it as a whole.

- 7. The persons appointed as members of the staff of a Member who holds the position of Leader or House Leader of a party referred to in subparagraph 6 of the first paragraph of section 7 of the Act respecting the conditions of employment and the pension plan of the Members of the National Assembly (chapter C-52.1), as amended by section 5, during the period beginning on 10 October 2018 and ending on 6 December 2018, are deemed to have been appointed as members of the Member's office staff.
- **8.** The Office of the National Assembly may make any regulation necessary for the purposes of this Act. Such a regulation may have retroactive effect to any date not prior to 10 October 2018.
- **9.** This Act comes into force on 7 December 2018.

Regulations and other Acts

Extract from the Rules for the conduct of proceedings in the National Assembly

CHAPTER III

RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF PROCEEDINGS RESPECTING PRIVATE BILLS

- **32. Objects** A bill relating to private or local matters must be introduced by a Member of the Assembly.
- **33. Deposit with Law Clerk** A Member who sponsors a bill relating to private or local matters shall deposit such bill with the Law Clerk.

The said Member shall not be answerable for the contents of the bill, nor shall he be required to endorse anything that may be provided therein. (See S.O. 264 and 265)

34. Documents to be provided – Such bill shall be accompanied by a notice stating the name of the Member who is to introduce it and by a copy of every document mentioned therein and of every other document that may be pertinent thereto.

Any bill relating to a municipal corporation governed by the Cities and Towns Act, the Québec Municipal Code, or a special charter shall likewise be accompanied by a certified true copy of the resolution authorizing its introduction.

(See S.O. 265)

35. Introduction and passage during same sessional period – No bill deposited with the Law Clerk during a sessional period envisaged in Standing Order 19 may be passed within that same period. 2009.04.21

(See S.O. 265)

36. Notice in *Gazette officielle du Québec* – The applicant for a private bill shall cause to be published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*, over his signature, a notice entitled "Avis de présentation d'un projet de loi d'intérêt privé".

Such notice shall specify the objects of the bill and state that any party whose interest may be affected by it and who wishes to make submissions with respect thereto must so advise the Law Clerk. (See S.O. 265)

37. Notices in newspaper – The said notice shall likewise be published in a newspaper in the judicial district wherein the applicant is domiciled; and if there be no newspaper in that district, it shall be published in a newspaper in the nearest district thereto.

Such notice shall be published once in each week for four weeks.

A copy of this notice shall accompany the bill upon its deposit with the Law Clerk. (See S.O. 265)

38. Reports from Law Clerk – The Law Clerk shall submit to the President of the Assembly a report stating whether such notice has been drafted and published in accordance with these Rules.

The President shall forward a copy of this report to the Government House Leader and to the Member sponsoring the bill.

(See S.O. 265)

39. Private bills register – The Law Clerk shall keep a register in which he shall enter the name, the occupation, and the place of residence of the applicant for a private bill and those of every party who has advised him that his interest is affected by such bill and that he wishes to make submissions with respect thereto.

The Law Clerk shall provide to the Government House Leader and to the Member who is to introduce such bill a list of the parties who have advised him of their wish to make submissions with respect thereto. (See S.O. 265)

- **40. Notices to interested parties** The director of the Committee Secretariat shall convene the interested parties not less than seven days before such bill is to be considered in committee. (See S.O. 267)
- **41. Annual publication of rules** The Law Clerk shall publish in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*, in January of each year, the rules pertaining to private bills, together with Title III, Chapter IV, of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly.

Extract from the Standing Orders of the National Assembly

TITLE III

CHAPTER IV PRIVATE BILLS

264. Notice and introduction – Any Member may, at the request of an interested person, introduce a bill relating to private or local matters.

He shall give notice of his intent not later than the day preceding that on which such bill is to be introduced and shall provide a copy thereof to the President before the sitting at which it is to be introduced. (See R.C.P. 33)

265. Report from Law Clerk – Before such bill is introduced, the President shall communicate to the Assembly the contents of the report from the Law Clerk thereon.

(See R.C.P. 33 to 39)

- **266. Preamble** A private bill shall require no explanatory notes; but every such bill shall contain a preamble setting out the facts on which it is founded.
- **267. Referral to committee** When a private bill has been introduced the Government House Leader shall move, without notice, that it be referred to a committee; and such motion shall be decided without debate.

The committee shall hear the interested parties, examine the bill clause by clause, and report thereon to the Assembly. The question for concurrence in such report shall be put forthwith and decided without debate. (See R.C.P. 40)

268. Motions for passage in principle and passage – The passage in principle of the bill shall be set down for a future sitting day. No motion may be made to divide such bill or to defer its passage in principle.

A private bill when passed in principle shall not again be referred to a standing committee but may be passed during the same sitting day, and Standing Order 257 shall apply: Provided that the bill may not then be passed if opposition to its passage is taken by five Members.

269. Debate – During the debates on the passage in principle and the final passage of a private bill, each Member may speak for up to ten minutes: Provided that the Member sponsoring the bill and the leaders of the parliamentary groups may each speak for up to thirty minutes.

270. Procedure – Except as otherwise provided in this chapter of these Standing Orders, the general rules pertaining to bills shall apply to private bills.

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Index Abbreviations: A: Abrogated, N: New, M: Modified

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