



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 117

(2000, chapter 23)

**An Act to amend the Act respecting
prescription drug insurance and the Act
respecting the Régie de l'assurance
maladie du Québec**

**Introduced 11 May 2000
Passage in principle 7 June 2000
Passage 15 June 2000
Assented to 16 June 2000**

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill amends certain rules applicable to the financing of the basic prescription drug insurance plan as regards the maximum amount of the annual premium, the computation of the amount payable by an individual and the sums paid into the prescription drug insurance fund.

Bill 117

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ACT RESPECTING PRESCRIPTION DRUG INSURANCE AND THE ACT RESPECTING THE RÉGIE DE L'ASSURANCE MALADIE DU QUÉBEC

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS :

ACT RESPECTING PRESCRIPTION DRUG INSURANCE

1. Section 23 of the Act respecting prescription drug insurance (R.S.Q., chapter A-29.01) is amended

- (1) by replacing “\$175” in the last line of the first paragraph by “\$350”;
- (2) by replacing the second paragraph by the following paragraphs :

“The \$350 limit shall be revised on 1 January each year according to the rate of adjustment fixed annually by the Board pursuant to the rules determined by regulation of the Government in order to cover, in accordance with section 40.3 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, the payments that must be made under section 40.2 of that Act.

The rate of adjustment and the revised amount shall be published by the Board in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* except where the rate of adjustment determined by the Board is nil and the amount remains unchanged.”

2. Section 78 of the said Act, amended by section 6 of chapter 37 of the statutes of 1999, is again amended by replacing subparagraph 7 of the first paragraph by the following subparagraph :

“(7) determine, for the purposes of section 23, the rules pursuant to which the rate of adjustment of the premium is fixed annually;”.

ACT RESPECTING THE RÉGIE DE L'ASSURANCE MALADIE DU QUÉBEC

3. Section 37.6 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (R.S.Q., chapter R-5) is amended

- (1) by replacing “\$175” in the first line of subparagraph *a* of the first paragraph by “\$350”;

(2) by striking out “by government regulation” in the second line of subparagraph *a* of the first paragraph;

(3) by replacing the formula in subparagraph *b* of the first paragraph by the following formula:

“ $C[(A \times B) + (D \times E)]$ ”;

(4) by replacing subparagraph *b* of the second paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(b) B is the lesser of the family income of the individual for the year and \$5,000;”;

(5) by adding the following subparagraphs after subparagraph *c* of the second paragraph:

“(d) D is

- i. 3%, if the individual has an eligible spouse for the year; or
- ii. 6%, in all other cases;

“(e) E is the amount by which the family income of the individual for the year exceeds \$5,000.”

4. Section 40.1 of the said Act is amended by replacing paragraph *d* by the following paragraphs:

“(d) the sums attributed to the Minister of Health and Social Services having regard to the additional cost of medications that are not subject to the lowest price method prescribed by the list of medications drawn up under section 60 of the Act respecting prescription drug insurance;

“(e) the interest deriving from the sums referred to in paragraphs *a*, *b*, *c* and *d*.”

5. This Act applies from the year 2000. However, where section 37.6 of the Act respecting the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, as amended by section 3 of this Act, applies to the year 2000, it shall read

(1) as if subparagraph *a* of the first paragraph were replaced by the following subparagraph:

“(a) the aggregate, for each month of the year during which the individual is a beneficiary other than a beneficiary referred to in section 37.7, of 1/12 of \$175 for each month from January to June, and of 1/12 of \$350 for each month from July to December;”;

(2) as if subparagraphs i and ii of subparagraph *d* of the second paragraph were replaced by the following subparagraphs:

“i. 2.5%, if the individual has an eligible spouse for the year; or

“ii. 5%, in all other cases.”

6. This Act comes into force on 1 July 2000.