

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 or body of persons, introduce a bill relating to private or local matters.

He shall give notice of his intent not later than the sitting 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.

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.

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 and the circumstances giving rise to the necessity for it.

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.

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.

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.

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 Municipal Code, or a special charter shall likewise be accompanied by a certified true copy of the resolution authorizing its introduction.

35. Introduction and passage during same sessional period – No bill deposited with the law clerk between the second Tuesday in March and the twenty-third day of June or between the second Tuesday in September and the twenty-first day of December may be passed within that same period.

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.

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

38. Reports from the 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.

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.

40. Notices interested parties – The director of the Secrétariat des commissions shall convene the interested parties not less than seven days before such bill is to be considered in committee.

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.