

Draft Regulations

Draft Regulation

An Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (R.S.Q., c. H-2.1)

Special periods of admission to certain commercial establishments

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation respecting special periods of admission to certain commercial establishments, appearing below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation proposes that large-surface grocery stores (more than 375 square metres of sales area) be closed on 1 January, Easter Sunday, 24 June, the first Monday in September, 25 December and before 1:00 p.m. on 26 December, and small-surface grocery stores (375 square metres or less of sales area) be open and operate without restricting the number of employees.

The draft Regulation also proposes that commercial establishments that principally offer for sale pharmaceutical, hygienic or sanitary products, and grocery stores be open and operate without restricting the number of employees on 2 January and 1 July.

The draft Regulation will have limited impact on the population because the population will have access at all times to essential goods and basic supplies in small-surface grocery stores. In addition, the draft Regulation will maintain the competitive conditions between large-surface grocery stores and will offer small-surface grocery stores new business opportunities during certain statutory holidays. Lastly, the draft Regulation will allow a number of employees to benefit from additional holidays and will foster the balancing of work and family obligations.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Pierre A. Forgues, Direction du commerce et de la construction, Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation, 380, rue Saint-Antoine Ouest, 4^e étage, Montréal (Québec) H2Y 3Y7; telephone: 514 499-2199, extension 3184; fax: 514 873-7408 or e-mail: pierrea.forgues@mdeic.gouv.qc.ca

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Pierre A. Forgues at the same address.

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*Minister of Economic Development,
Innovation and Export Trade*

Regulation respecting special periods of admission to certain commercial establishments

An Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (R.S.Q., c. H-2.1, s. 4.1)

DIVISION I COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS THAT OFFER FOR SALE PHARMACEUTICAL, HYGIENIC OR SANITARY PRODUCTS

1. Despite paragraphs 2 and 5 of section 3 of the Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments (R.S.Q., c. H-2.1), the public may be admitted to a commercial establishment that offers for sale pharmaceutical, hygienic or sanitary products on the conditions provided in subparagraph 1 of the first paragraph of section 7 of the Act, on 2 January and 1 July between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., if those days fall on a Saturday or a Sunday, or between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., if those days fall on another day of the week.

The periods of admission referred to in the first paragraph have precedence over section 7 of the Act.

DIVISION II GROCERY STORES

2. In this section,

(1) “grocery store” means a grocery store as defined in the second paragraph of section 3.1 of the Act;

(2) “small-surface grocery store” means a grocery store with a sales area of 375 square metres or less;

(3) “large-surface grocery store” means a grocery store with a sales area of more than 375 square metres.

The sales area of a grocery store corresponds to the total area reserved for sale, services related to sales and for the public to have access to products and services, including circulation areas, food preparation areas where a person assigned to that area is also responsible for serving clients, and spaces where payment is made.

3. Despite paragraphs 2 and 5 of section 3 of the Act, the public may be admitted to a grocery store on 2 January and 1 July between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., if those days fall on a Saturday or a Sunday, or between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., if those days fall on another day of the week.

The periods of admission referred to in the first paragraph have precedence over section 6 of the Act.

4. Despite paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 of section 3 and subparagraph 3 of the first paragraph of section 3.1 of the Act, the public may be admitted to a small-surface grocery store on

- (1) 1 January;
- (2) Easter Sunday;
- (3) 24 June;
- (4) the first Monday in September;
- (5) 25 December;
- (6) before 1:00 p.m. on 26 December.

The periods of admission referred to in the first paragraph have precedence over section 6 of the Act.

5. Despite section 6 of the Act, the public may not be admitted to a large-surface grocery store on

- (1) 1 January;
- (2) Easter Sunday;
- (3) 24 June;
- (4) the first Monday in September;
- (5) 25 December;
- (6) before 1:00 p.m. on 26 December.

DIVISION III

COMING INTO FORCE

6. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

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