

**M.O., 2024****Order 2024-22 of the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility dated 17 December 2024**

Highway Safety Code  
(chapter C-24.2)

Suspension of the term of validity of certain licences and of the payment due date for the amounts payable to renew those licences or to retain the authorization to drive

**THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY,**

CONSIDERING section 633.2 of the Highway Safety Code (chapter C-24.2), which provides that the Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility may, by order and after consultation with the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, suspend the application of a provision of the Code or the regulations for the period specified by the Minister, if the Minister considers that it is in the interest of the public and is not likely to compromise highway safety;

CONSIDERING section 633.2 of the Code, which provides that the Minister may prescribe any rule, applicable when using the exemption, that ensures an equivalent level of safety in the Minister's opinion;

CONSIDERING section 633.2 of the Code, which provides that the publication requirement set out in section 8 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1) does not apply to such an order;

CONSIDERING section 18 of the Regulations Act, which provides that a regulation may come into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* where the authority that has made it is of the opinion that the urgency of the situation requires it and that the reason justifying such coming into force must be published with the regulation;

CONSIDERING that there has been an interruption of Canada Post services for more than 25 days;

CONSIDERING that holders of a driver's licence or a restricted licence referred to in section 76.1.1 of the Highway Safety Code are subject to penalties if they fail to pay on the due date the amounts payable to renew the licence or to retain the authorization to drive;

CONSIDERING that the Minister considers that the suspension of the provisions of the Regulation respecting licences (chapter C-24.2, r. 34) governing the

term of validity of the driver's licence and the restricted licence referred to in section 76.1.1 of the Highway Safety Code as well as the due date for the payment of the amounts payable to renew those licences or to retain the authorization to drive is in the interest of the public and that the suspension is not likely to compromise highway safety;

CONSIDERING that the Société has been consulted;

CONSIDERING that the Minister is of the opinion that the urgency of the suspension is due in particular to the following circumstances and justifies a coming into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*:

—since the Canada Post service interruption began, the Société has been using a private courier service to send written communications;

—the capacity of the private courier service has been insufficient to process the volume of written communications the Société must send, including the annual payment notices that must be paid in order to retain the authorization to drive, resulting in a delay in their delivery;

—a delay is to be expected before normal operations resume at Canada Post;

—that situation is likely to expose the holders of a driver's licence or a restricted licence referred to in section 76.1.1 of the Highway Safety Code who are required to pay the amounts payable to renew the licence or to retain the authorization to drive to a serious risk of not being able to do so before the payment due date and therefore of no longer being able to drive a road vehicle;

**ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The application of sections 50.4, 50.7, 63 and 73.5 of the Regulation respecting licences (chapter C-24.2, r. 34) in respect of holders of a driver's licence or a restricted licence referred to in section 76.1.1 of the Highway Safety Code (chapter C-24.2) whose licence expiry date or, as the case may be, payment due date to retain the authorization to drive falls in the period beginning on 20 December 2024 and ending on 28 February 2025 is suspended until the earliest of

(1) 31 March 2025; and

(2) the date of the renewal of the licence or the due date for the payment of the amounts payable to retain the authorization to drive.

During the suspension, a driver's licence or, as the case may be, a restricted licence referred to in section 76.1.1 of the Code whose expiry date falls in the period beginning on 20 December 2024 and ending on 28 February 2025 is deemed to be valid.

The licence holder referred in the first paragraph must pay, for the 12-month period as of the holder's birthday, the amounts payable, as the case may be, under section 69 of the Code to renew the holder's licence or under section 93.1 of the Code to retain the authorization to drive.

**2.** This Order comes into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*. It is revoked as of 1 April 2025.

Québec, 17 December 2024

GENEVIÈVE GUILBAULT

*Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility*

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