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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 236  
(Private)

## **An Act respecting the Arthur Bouvier estate**

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### **Introduction**

**Introduced by  
Madam Christiane Pelchat  
Member for Vachon**



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**Québec Official Publisher  
1990**



# Bill 236

(Private)

## **An Act respecting the Arthur Bouvier estate**

WHEREAS Arthur Bouvier, who died on 25 May 1952, provided for the disposition of his property on his death by an authentic will executed on 1 July 1950 and registered at the registry office of the registration division of Verchères under number 58833;

Whereas the will contains a universal legacy by which the testator created a trust whose revenues must be used, in particular:

“(a) to pay an annual sum of \$850 to the school commissioners of the municipality of the parish of Sainte-Théodosie to help pay the annual salary of one lay teacher for boys attending the school of the school municipality of Sainte-Théodosie;

(b) to defray the costs of classical, commercial or agricultural studies, in an educational institution in the province of Québec, of children endowed with the talents and aptitudes necessary to benefit from such studies and whose parents are domiciled within the limits of the parish of Sainte-Théodosie...” (Translation);

Whereas the will provides that the selection of children who are to receive scholarships must be made by the pastor of the parish who “... must take great care in making his selection, taking into account the moral qualities of the child and his parents, assessing the character, abilities, natural talents and dedication of the candidate and assuring himself that the candidate will use the opportunity granted to him to the credit of the religion of his people and his country.” (Translation);

Whereas the will also provides that the trustees “will, on November first of each year, give the revenues which have not been

paid out and which constitute a surplus to the Congrégation des Oblats de Marie Immaculée, of the Juniorat de Chambly, to be used for the education and training of the poor children of that institution.” (Translation);

Whereas the Catholic school board of Varennes, which succeeded to the rights and obligations of the school commissioners of the school board of Sainte-Théodosie, has, by resolution of its council dated 24 October 1990, renounced the legacy of \$850 per year which was bequeathed to it;

Whereas, although classical, commercial or agricultural courses similar to those which were offered during the lifetime of the testator no longer exist, scholarships have continued to be granted out of the revenues of the trust created by his will;

Whereas for several years the selection of the recipients of scholarships has been made by the fabrique rather than by the pastor acting alone, and the religious convictions of the candidates have not been regarded as a determining factor;

Whereas the use of the term “children” by the testator raises a doubt as to the power of the fabrique to grant a scholarship to a student of full age;

Whereas the Juniorat de Chambly has ceased to carry on its activities, rendering the clause of the will relating to the distribution of surpluses inapplicable, and whereas, in practice, the foregoing has not posed a problem since all the revenues available for scholarships have been distributed as such by the fabrique;

Whereas the fabrique maintains a small library for the residents of the parish of Sainte-Théodosie and surrounding areas, and whereas it would benefit from the use, for such purpose, of part of the revenues of the trust created by the will of Arthur Bouvier;

Whereas the bishop of Saint-Jean, who has jurisdiction over the parish of Sainte-Théodosie, has been informed of the introduction of this Act and has consented to its passage;

**THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

**1.** The fabrique of the parish of Sainte-Théodosie is authorized to use up to 10 % of the revenues of the trust created by the will of Arthur Bouvier, registered at the registry office of the registration division of Verchères under number 58833, for the purposes of

maintaining a library for the residents of the parish of Sainte-Théodosie and surrounding areas.

**2.** The fabrique is authorized to distribute, in the form of scholarships for students enrolled in an educational institution in Québec, that part of the revenues of the trust created by the will of Arthur Bouvier which exceeds the sums used for the purposes of section 1.

The recipients of these scholarships must have their principal residence in the parish of Sainte-Théodosie and they may be minors or of full age.

The selection of the recipients shall be made by the fabrique of the parish of Sainte-Théodosie and shall be based on the aptitudes of each applicant for the studies that he plans to undertake and on his financial situation.

The fabrique has discretion over the number of scholarships to be granted and the amount thereof. It may grant scholarships of unequal amounts and, if it considers that no valid application has been made during the fiscal year, it may choose to grant no scholarship.

**3.** The sums which, at the end of each fiscal year, have not been distributed pursuant to section 1 or 2 shall be integrated into the capital of the trust.

**4.** This Act comes into force on *(insert here the date of assent to this Act)*.

Sections 1 and 2 have effect from 1 January 1970.