



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 56

An Act to amend the Hotels Act

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr Yvon Picotte
Minister of Tourism**

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The object of this bill is to place tourist information bureaux under the same legal requirements as those which apply to hotel establishments, restaurants, camping grounds and trailer parks.

It also specifies what persons may obtain a permit to operate a tourist information bureau.

Lastly, it increases the amounts of fines that may be imposed for any contraventions of the Hotels Act or the regulations under it.

ACT AMENDED BY THIS ACT:

- The Hotels Act (R.S.Q., chapter H-3)

Bill 56

An Act to amend the Hotels Act

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Section 1 of the Hotels Act (R.S.Q., chapter H-3) is amended by adding the following paragraph:

“(g) “tourist information bureau”: any establishment whose main activity is the providing of information to the public about lodgings, restaurants, camping and trailer facilities or tourist attractions in Québec.”

2. Section 2 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“**2.** The Government, by regulation, may determine classes of hotel establishments, restaurants and tourist information bureaus and determine the terms by which the establishments in each of such classes may be designated.”

3. Section 3 of the said Act is replaced by the following sections:

“**3.** No person shall operate or lead to the belief that he operates a hotel establishment, a restaurant, a camping ground and trailer park or a tourist information bureau unless he holds a permit issued for that purpose for the camping ground and trailer park or for the class of hotel establishment, restaurant or tourist information bureau concerned.

No person shall use, in the name under which he operates a hotel establishment, a restaurant or a tourist information bureau, or in his advertising, any term which leads to the belief that such establishment belongs to a class other than that for which a permit has been issued.

“3.1 Only a non-profit corporation one of whose objects is to promote tourism may hold a permit to operate a tourist information bureau.

Only the holder of a permit to operate a tourist information bureau may display a sign or poster bearing the words “tourist information” or any other expression indicating or suggesting the operation of a tourist information bureau.”

4. Section 5 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“5. The holder of a permit shall post it up in a conspicuous place in the hotel establishment, restaurant or tourist information bureau, or at the entrance to the camping ground and trailer park, as the case may be, and keep it posted up there.”

5. Section 11 of the said Act is amended

(1) by replacing subparagraph *h* of the first paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(h) to regulate tourist information bureaus or prohibit the operation thereof, with or without exceptions;”;

(2) by replacing subparagraph *j* of the first paragraph by the following subparagraph:

“(j) to fix, for camping grounds and trailer parks and for each class of hotel establishment, restaurant and tourist information bureau determined in accordance with section 2, minimum standards respecting the services which must be offered to customers;”.

6. Section 12 of the said Act is replaced by the following section:

“12. Every person in charge of a hotel establishment, camping ground and trailer park, restaurant or tourist information bureau shall admit to his establishment, on demand and at any reasonable hour, any inspector generally instructed by the Minister to carry out such inspection.

The inspector shall identify himself on demand and show the certificate bearing the signature of the Minister and attesting his capacity.”

7. Section 13 of the said Act is amended by replacing subsections 1 to 3 by the following subsections:

“13. (1) Every person who infringes section 3 shall be guilty of an offence and liable, upon summary proceeding, in addition to payment of the costs, to a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$2 000 for each day or part of a day that the offence continues and, for any subsequent offence within two years of conviction for the same offence, to a fine of not less than \$2 000 nor more than \$4 000.

(2) Every person who infringes any other provision of this Act or the regulations, or hinders or attempts to hinder in any manner any person doing anything which this Act obliges or authorizes him to do, or who destroys, removes, hides, alters or obliterates a permit issued under this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and liable, upon summary proceeding, in addition to payment of the costs, to a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$500.

(3) In any proceedings instituted under this Act, where the offence is committed in a hotel establishment, restaurant, camping ground and trailer park or tourist information bureau, the holder of the permit or the owner or manager of the establishment may be condemned to the same penalties as the person who committed the offence.”

8. Every permit to operate a tourist information office issued under the Hotels Act and in force on *(insert here the date preceding that of the coming into force of this Act)* remains valid until its prescribed date of expiry.

9. This Act comes into force on the date fixed by the Government.