

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

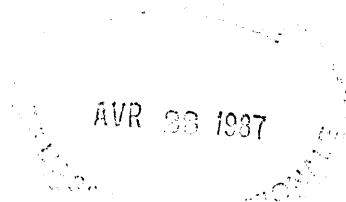
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 24

An Act to amend the Act respecting the Ministère des Communications

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr Richard D. French
Minister of Communications**



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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill amends the Act respecting the Ministère des Communications and provides for the establishment of a telecommunications services fund and a computer services fund. It entrusts the Minister of Communications with the duty of supplying, for a consideration,

(1) telecommunications services to government departments, except services designated by the Government for the departments it determines;

(2) telecommunications services at the request of public bodies or other bodies defined by the Government;

(3) computer services at the request of government departments and public bodies or other bodies defined by the Government.

The funds will defray the costs of the computer services and telecommunications services supplied by the Minister of Communications.

The funds will be managed, financed and operated as provided in this bill.

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THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Section 3 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Communications (R.S.Q., chapter M-24) is amended by replacing subparagraph *d* of the first paragraph by the following subparagraphs:

“(d) establish communications services for all government departments;

“(d.1) supply, for a consideration, telecommunications services to the departments, except services designated by the Government for the departments it determines;

“(d.2) supply, on request and for a consideration, telecommunications services to public bodies or other bodies defined by the Government;

“(d.3) supply, on request and for a consideration, computer services to the departments and to public bodies or other bodies defined by the Government;

“(d.4) ensure coordination of communications services established by public bodies, municipal corporations and any urban or regional community with the services established by him;”.

2. The said Act is amended by inserting, after section 19, the following chapter:

“CHAPTER III

“SERVICE FUNDS

“**19.1** Two special funds hereinafter called “telecommunications services fund” and “computer services fund” are hereby established.

“**19.2** The following amounts shall be paid into the funds:

(1) the sums received as remuneration for services financed through the funds;

(2) the proceeds from advances that may be granted to them by the Minister of Finance out of the consolidated revenue fund with the authorization of the Government;

(3) the sums that may be deposited in the funds by the Minister out of the appropriations allocated for that purpose by Parliament.

“**19.3** The funds shall be assigned to, respectively, the financing of the costs of telecommunications services and computer services supplied by the Minister in accordance with subparagraphs *d.1*, *d.2* and *d.3* of the first paragraph of section 3.

“**19.4** The sums deposited in the funds shall be managed by the Minister of Finance. They shall be credited to him and deposited with the financial institutions he determines.

The books of account for the funds shall be kept by the Ministère des Communications.

“**19.5** For each fund, the Government shall determine the date on which operations are to begin, the assets and liabilities to be posted, the nature of the services and costs that may be paid for or assumed by the fund and the surpluses to be remitted to the consolidated revenue fund.

“**19.6** The sums deposited in the funds are subject to sections 22, 23, 25 to 27, 33, 35, 45, 48, 49, 51, 57, 70, 71 and 72 of the Financial Administration Act (R.S.Q., chapter A-6), adapted as required.

For the purposes of section 51 of the said Act, the terms “consolidated revenue fund” are replaced by the terms “telecommunications services fund” or “computer services fund”, as the case may be.

“**19.7** The sums necessary for the payment of the remuneration and expenses pertaining to social benefits and other conditions of

employment of the persons assigned, in accordance with the Public Service Act (R.S.Q., chapter F-3.1.1), to activities related to the telecommunications services fund and to the computer services fund shall be taken out of those funds.

“19.8 Advances referred to in paragraph 2 of section 19.2 shall be repayable out of the fund in which the proceeds have been deposited.

“19.9 The fiscal year of the funds shall begin on 1 April in one year and end on 31 March in the following year.”

3. The appropriations allocated to the Ministère des Communications to defray the cost of telecommunications services and computer services for the fiscal year in which the operations of a fund begin shall be transferred to the departments and public bodies benefiting from the services, on the dates on which the operations of the funds begin, to the extent determined by the Government.

4. The appropriations allocated to the Office des ressources humaines to defray the employer's contributions for the fiscal year in which the operations of a fund begin shall be transferred to the departments and public bodies benefiting from the services, on the dates on which the operations of the funds begin, to the extent determined by the Government.

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