



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

Bill 199

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language

Introduction

**Introduced by
Mr Pierre Marc Johnson
Member for Anjou**



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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The object of this bill is to include in the Charter of the French language formal provisions making effective sections 58 and 69 notwithstanding section 3 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms and section 2b of the Constitution Act of 1982 in order to maintain the present provisions of the Charter of the French language according to which French is the language used for public signs and posters, commercial advertising and firm names.

Bill 199

An Act to amend the Charter of the French language

WHEREAS the National Assembly, by passing the Charter of the French language, has recognized that Quebecers wish to see the quality and influence of the French language assured;

Whereas the National Assembly, by passing the Charter, has affirmed that it wishes to make of French the normal and everyday language of the Government, work, instruction, communication, commerce and business;

Whereas, following judgments of the courts on the effects of certain sections of the Charter on freedom of expression, it is expedient to harmonize a judicial interpretation of rights and freedoms and the legitimate objectives of a sovereign parliament;

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Charter of the French language (R.S.Q., chapter C-11) is amended by inserting, after section 213, the following sections:

“**213.1** Sections 58 and 69 apply notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of the Charter of human rights and freedoms (R.S.Q., chapter C-12).”

“**213.2** Sections 58 and 69, to the extent that they result in a breach of freedom of expression, shall operate notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph *b* of section 2 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B to the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom).”

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