

Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Resolutions Adopted at the 2022 Annual General Meeting

Resolution 2022-03: A Call to Suspend and Amend Law 21

WHEREAS Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (1982) states:

2. Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms: **(a)** freedom of conscience and religion; **(b)** freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication; **(c)** freedom of peaceful assembly; and **(d)** freedom of association.;

WHEREAS Section 3 of the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms of Quebec (chapter C-12, 1975) states:

3. Every person is the possessor of the fundamental freedoms, including freedom of conscience, freedom of religion, freedom of opinion, freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association.;

WHEREAS the Coalition Avenir Québec political party achieved a majority of seats with only 25% of eligible votes in the provincial general election of October 1st, 2018 ¹, yet continues to impose the Notwithstanding Clause and *le bâillon* (closure) to limit and bring to an end democratic debate in the National Assembly of Quebec;

WHEREAS Law 21 prohibits the hiring of certain qualified teachers, which only exacerbates the already serious teacher shortage, adversely affecting the delivery of quality education to students; and

WHEREAS Law 21 continues to be a local, regional, provincial, national, and international embarrassment;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the **Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc.** demands that the Government of Quebec:

- immediately suspend Law 21;
- initiate a comprehensive review and debate of Law 21 in the National Assembly in order to address those sections that fail to respect Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Section 3 of the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms of Quebec;
- amend those sections to ensure they respect Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Section 3 of the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms of Quebec;

FURTHERMORE, be it resolved that the **Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc.** demands that the Government of Canada:

- advocate for the suspension of Law 21 pending review by the National Assembly;
- advocate for the amendment of those sections found to be in violation of Section 2 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Section 3 of the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms of Quebec.

¹They garnered only 37.42% of the votes cast, which in turn represented only 66.45% of voters who were eligible to vote.

