



**Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations**  
*The Voice of the Parent in Education*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The QFHSA Is Surprised and Disheartened  
by the Québec Court of Appeal's  
Decision to Uphold Bill 21**



**MONTREAL, QUEBEC, Tuesday, March 5, 2024** — The members of the board of the directors of the **Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (QFHSA)** are surprised and disheartened by the Québec Court of Appeal's decision to uphold Bill 21, a law that infringes on individual rights and further restricts an already strained education system.

The Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, has said that the Government of Canada would defend the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms **should** the matter be taken to the Supreme Court of Canada. The QFHSA believes that a passive response to this problematic and discriminatory law is no longer possible. To hear the Government of Québec call the Notwithstanding Clause the "parliamentary sovereignty clause" is nothing less than an affront to our values as Canadians. Our federation strongly urges the Government of Canada to refer this case in specific and Québec's repeated use of the Notwithstanding Clause in general directly to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Government of Québec must understand that it cannot create laws that [allegedly] reflect the will of the majority, but trample over the rights and freedoms of minority individuals and communities.

**About Us:** *The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (QFHSA) is an independent, incorporated, not-for-profit volunteer organization dedicated to enhancing the education and general well-*

being of children and youth. Since 1944, the QFHSA has been promoting the involvement of parents, students, educators, and the community at large in the advancement of learning and acting as a voice for parents. For more information on the QFHSA, please visit [qfhsa.org](http://qfhsa.org), follow us on [Facebook.com/qfhsa](https://Facebook.com/qfhsa) and [Twitter @QFHSA](https://Twitter.com/QFHSA).

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If you would like more information about the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations and its activities, please call Carol Meindl at 514-481-5619 or email [carolmeindl@qfhsa.org](mailto:carolmeindl@qfhsa.org).

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