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# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 73

**An Act to amend the  
Highway Safety Code as  
regards road traffic**

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**Introduction**

**Introduced by  
Mr Jacques Léonard  
Minister of Transport**



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**Québec Official Publisher  
1995**

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

*This bill introduces various amendments to the Highway Safety Code as regards road traffic. It clarifies the provisions governing compulsory traffic lanes and amends the regulatory powers conferred on municipalities in respect of traffic prohibitions in their territories. It authorizes, in respect of traffic, the persons responsible for the maintenance of a public highway to restrict or prohibit, on such a highway, the driving of heavy vehicles, with the exception of vehicles used for local delivery.*

*The bill also includes amendments respecting the equipment of oversized vehicles and adjusts the amount of certain fines.*

## Bill 73

### **An Act to amend the Highway Safety Code as regards road traffic**

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

**1.** Section 291 of the Highway Safety Code (R.S.Q., chapter C-24.2) is replaced by the following section:

**“291.** The person responsible for the maintenance of a public highway may, by means of appropriate signs or signals, restrict or prohibit the driving on that highway of road vehicles the net mass of which exceeds 3 000 kg, or of some of those vehicles, in particular road vehicles the mass or size of which exceeds the mass or size indicated on the signs or signals.

No person may drive a road vehicle in contravention of a sign or signal erected under this section.”

**2.** Section 292 of the said Code is replaced by the following section:

**“292.** Any sign or signal erected under section 291 may, however, provide exceptions with respect to road vehicles used to collect or to deliver goods or property, to provide services or to carry out work in the territory of a municipality through which runs a highway on which traffic is prohibited or restricted under that section.”

**3.** Section 314.1 of the said Code is amended by adding the following paragraph:

“However, where the traffic of road vehicles the net mass of which exceeds 3 000 kg is regulated by signs or signals, the fine is \$300 to \$600.”

**4.** The said Code is amended by inserting, after section 315, the following section:

**“315.1** The driver of a road vehicle who contravenes the second paragraph of section 291 is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine of \$300 to \$600.”

**5.** Section 318 of the said Code is amended

(1) by striking out the words “the second paragraph of section 291 or” in the first and second lines of the first paragraph;

(2) by striking out the second paragraph.

**6.** Section 365 of the said Code is replaced by the following section:

**“365.** On a roadway with two lanes or more, where lane-direction signals are installed to indicate which lanes are open to traffic, the driver of a road vehicle may drive only in the lanes above which there is a green arrow pointing downwards.”

**7.** Section 462 of the said Code is amended by replacing the words “one category established by regulation” in the second line of subparagraph 1 of the first paragraph by the words “a class established by regulation or, where there is no axle, the mass measured under the wheel assemblies in lieu of axles and included in such a class”.

**8.** Section 513 of the said Code is amended

(1) by replacing the words “is liable to a fine of \$300 to \$600” in the fourth and fifth lines of the first paragraph by the words “is liable

(1) if the offence consists in carrying a load exceeding the maximum axle load or the maximum total loaded mass specified in the special permit, to a fine of \$300 plus \$100 for every 1 000 kg in excess;

(2) to a fine of \$300 to \$600 in other cases.”;

(2) by replacing the words “is liable to a fine of \$600 to \$2 000” in the third and fourth lines of the second paragraph by the words “is liable

(1) if the offence consists in carrying an unsigned special permit, to a fine of \$100 to \$200;

(2) if the offence consists in carrying a load exceeding the maximum axle load or the maximum total loaded mass specified in the special permit, to a fine of \$600 plus \$100 for every 1 000 kg in excess;

(3) to a fine of \$600 to \$2 000 in other cases.”

**9.** Section 621 of the said Code is amended by replacing paragraph 16 by the following paragraph:

“(16) establish classes of axles and include in those classes wheel assemblies that are not attached to an axle but are in lieu thereof;”.

**10.** Section 626 of the said Code, amended by section 1 of chapter 3 of the statutes of 1995, is again amended by replacing the words “it allows road vehicles the use of roads permitting them to drive across the territory of the municipality and provided that the prohibition, the use of those roads and the route to be followed are” in the second, third, fourth and fifth lines of paragraph 5 by the words “that the prohibition is”.

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