



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Bill 26
(2003, chapter 22)

An Act to ensure the protection of veterans' graves and war graves

Introduced 11 November 2003
Passage in principle 11 November 2003
Passage 17 December 2003
Assented to 18 December 2003

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bill prescribes that the administrator of a cemetery must ensure the protection of the graves of Canadian Armed Forces or Allied Forces veterans and of certain war graves located in the cemetery. The bill also establishes under which conditions the administrator may allow the remains interred in these graves or the markers placed on them to be moved.

Bill 26

AN ACT TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF VETERANS' GRAVES AND WAR GRAVES

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1.** The graves referred to in this Act are those of Canadian Armed Forces or Allied Forces veterans or any war graves protected by the Geneva Conventions for the Protection of War Victims signed at Geneva on 12 August 1949 and the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions reproduced in Schedules I through VI of the Geneva Conventions Act (Revised Statutes of Canada, 1985, chapter G-3).
- 2.** The administrator of a cemetery must ensure the protection of the veterans' graves and war graves located in the cemetery. The remains interred in these graves or the markers placed on them may be moved only in such a manner that they may be found again.
- 3.** The administrator of a cemetery may agree with the appropriate federal minister or the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on the financial or other arrangements needed to protect and maintain the graves. If the administrator has received notice from the federal minister or the Commission that the federal minister or the Commission has undertaken to pay the maintenance and concession costs with respect to a gravesite, the administrator may not allow the remains interred in the grave or the marker placed on it to be moved unless the federal minister or the Commission has been given three months' advance notice of the intention to do so.
- 4.** The minister responsible for the administration of this Act is the minister designated by the Government.
- 5.** This Act comes into force on 18 December 2003.