

---

## CONTEXT OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING BILL 51

### Animal Health Protection Act

(R.S.Q, c. P-42)

The deadline for submitting the letter to the opposition party's member is January 20, 2012.

### VERSION 1.3

January 15th, 2012

-----  
**THIS DOCUMENT IS EVOLVING AND IS SUBJECT TO CORRECTIONS AND PERIODIC UPDATES.**  
-----

Obtain the latest version of this document at the following address:

<http://www.respect-animal.ca/Animaux-LoisReglements/pdf/P-42-projet-loi-51-contexte-en.pdf>

Obtain other documents on the same subject at the following address:

<http://www.respect-animal.ca/Animaux-LoisReglements/>

Get information on other related topics at the following address:

<http://www.respect-animal.ca/fr/animaux-compagnie-mapaq-loi-51.html>  
-----

*Bill 51* modifies Act P-42, the Animal Health Protection Act, by amending, adding or deleting some articles. A letter addressing this issue, containing comments and recommendations concerning the amendments proposed by Bill 51, was drawn up to be sent to the MNA for Kamouraska-Témiscouata, André Simard, official opposition critic for agriculture and food. The present document explains in what context this letter was written and why it deals with certain subjects and not with others. To see the letter in question, as well as the complete analysis of Bill 51 and the amendments that are to be implemented to Act P-42, please go to the following links:

<http://www.respect-animal.ca/Animaux-LoisReglements/pdf/P-42-projet-loi-51-lettre-courte-en.pdf>

<http://www.respect-animal.ca/Animaux-LoisReglements/pdf/P-42-projet-loi-51-analyse-fr.pdf>

## CONTEXT OF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

*Bill 51* proposes the introduction of Article 55.9.14.2 to *Act P-42*. With this Article, the minister has decided to postpone almost all the important measures which would have notably positive repercussions on the security and welfare of animals. In fact, if you ask the minister to regulate on euthanasia, he will answer: “Wait, we plan to regulate this one day in Article 55.9.14.2”. And if you ask him to regulate on activities involving animals, he will answer: “Wait, we plan to regulate this one day in Article 55.9.14.2”. And if, as well, you ask him to regulate on the transport of animals, he will answer – you guessed it – the same thing. Therefore we have to be careful not to waste time and energy on the topics that will not be addressed by *Bill 51*, but which will be studied in future documents dedicated to those topics. Here is a list of topics which will be deferred to future regulation by the Minister:

### **Custody and transportation of animals**

Determine the standards relative to the custody and transportation of animals.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 16; P-42, a. 55.9.14.1)

### **Activities involving animals**

The carrying on by an owner or guardian of a cat or dog of an activity involving the animal.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-1°)

### **Issuance of permits**

Monitoring the industry by issuing conditional and restrictive permits, the requirement of recognized skills or qualifications, and the obligations of the permit holder and its employees.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-2°,3°,4°)

### **Premises where activities involving animals are carried on**

Establish standards concerning the premises where activities involving animals are carried on, applicable to the organization, maintenance, and operation of said premises.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-5°)

### **Maximum number of cats or dogs kept on the premises**

Determine the maximum number of cats or dogs which may be kept on the premises which include, among others, pounds, animal houses, and premises kept by persons or organizations dedicated to the protection of animals, or who may be kept by a single natural person.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-6°,7°)

### **Protocols and registers**

Determine the protocols and registers that the owner or custodian of a cat or dog must observe or keep, and the rules pertaining to them.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-8°)

### **Vaccination, isolation and quarantine**

Determine and establish preventive measures for cats or dogs, notably vaccination, isolation or quarantine.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-9°)

### **Euthanasia**

Determine the standards for euthanizing cats or dogs, and regulate or prohibit certain methods, procedures and conditions.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-10°)

### **Other measures**

Foresee any other measure intended to ensure the safety or welfare of cats or dogs.

(2011, P.L. 51, a. 17; P-42, a. 55.9.14.2-11°)

*Bill 51*, in reality, merely pays lip service – meaning that it plans to introduce a few immediate modifications to *Act P-42*, notably pertaining to permits, fines and to certain powers but, mainly, with the addition of Article 55.9.14.2, it lays the foundation for future regulations. In fact, it delays several actions that it could stipulate today and, as we know, at the speed at which these things move and have always moved along, it will take a minimum of several decades before all these regulations are implemented. That is why, in this letter of recommendations, it will mostly pertain to topics that are not included in Article 55.9.14.2 – i.e. breeding and kitten and puppy mills, science and religion, preventive spaying and neutering, as well as the problem of animal overpopulation.