

COA Response to the National Assembly of Québec's Bill 21 (An Act Respecting the Laicity of the State) – 2019

On June 16, 2019, the National Assembly of Québec passed [Bill 21](#), an act respecting the laicity of the State, into law. The Canadian Orthopaedic Association is not in agreement with this Bill. The COA membership and leadership embrace and welcome diversity and inclusion.

As an association whose head office is in Montreal and in the Province of Quebec, we support the broadest possible access to higher education and believe that the diversity of our community contributes to the richness of daily life, not only of our community, but also of our head-office city and province. While the law will not change our policies and practices, we are concerned that it may eventually affect, and unnecessarily restrict some of our members' future employment opportunities. We will continue to monitor this situation and speak out against any legislation that seeks to restrict the freedoms that Canadians have sought to protect.