

CUUSS-TS GENERAL ASSEMBLY - APRIL 10th, 2025

CUUSS-TS RESOLUTION 401-2025

RESOLUTION AGAINST PROPOSED QUEBEC BILL 89

WHEREAS

The CAQ Labour Minister has brought forward a piece of proposed legislation that would give the provincial government broad powers to decide what constitutes an ‘essential service’ and use this to force labour groups into arbitration with their employers. A union or labour group that decides to exercise its right to strike or take other forms of collective bargaining action could have its work be classified as an ‘essential service’ by the government and be forced into arbitration, weakening the essential right to strike and undermining the strength of labour groups to stand for justice and fair employment conditions.

The government is framing this project as a means of protecting Quebec society from the harm posed by striking employees who would interrupt essential services. The proposed law, however, does not define what might constitute “*the services minimally required to prevent the population’s social, economic or environmental security from being disproportionately affected, in particular that of persons in vulnerable situations*”, leaving the door open for abuse of power to unfairly favour the interests of employers. Strike action is never the first choice of workers, but it is one of our most significant tools, and a Constitutional Right that is hard won, and one that we must now fight to protect.

In consideration of the above,

Be it resolved that;

- The Assembly supports a demand for the withdrawal of the proposed Bill 89
- The Executive, Union Council, and individual members are directed to communicate their opposition to the proposed Bill 89 to the Ministry of Labour, the Minister of Labour Jean Boulet, and their MNA’s
- The Union will make available a number of liberation hours to allow members to join public protests in opposition to the proposed Bill 89

