

QUEBEC BILL 9 // PRIVACY AND ADULT AGENCY

Repeal Bill 9 in full.

A legal caffeine purchase should require no age assurance and no government identification. The ban on remote sales should be repealed.

EXACT LEGISLATIVE REQUEST	Repeal An Act to prevent the harmful effects of energy drinks on the health of young people (2026, chapter 11) in its entirety.
IF COMPLETE REPEAL CANNOT PASS	Retain only a seller-side rule for in-person sales to people under 16. Remove purchaser offences, section 3 identity demands, section 4 remote-sales restrictions and every form of age assurance.

The position

NO REPLACEMENT SYSTEM Do not trade photo ID for a digital token, biometric check, zero-knowledge proof or facial estimate. The objection is to age assurance itself.	REMOTE SALES STAY LEGAL Adults should keep access to delivery and ordinary online purchasing without an identity gate.
NO PURCHASER OFFENCE A customer should not face a penalty for buying or accepting a legal caffeinated drink.	DIGNITY OF RISK Disabled adults retain the right to make everyday decisions that government officials may consider unwise.

What the enacted Act changes

SECTION 1	Creates an under-16 sales restriction. The category applies a concentration threshold before an ingredient test and express exclusions.
SECTION 3	Requires a purchaser to produce qualifying government photo ID when a seller asks for proof of age.
SECTION 4	Prohibits sales without physical co-presence, including Internet sales, once the first regulation under that section begins.
SECTIONS 7 TO 11	Create fines for purchasers and sellers, with higher merchant ranges and doubled ranges for later offences.

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Why repeal is the proportionate response

CATEGORY IS NOT DOSAGE	Health Canada lists 179 mg as the average caffeine in 237 mL of filter-drip coffee. Coffee is excluded by default, while a lower-caffeine can may fall inside the Act.
ID IS AN ACCESS CONDITION	The Act does not require retailers to copy identification. It still makes access depend on possessing and presenting a qualifying document when asked.
DELIVERY IS PRACTICAL ACCESS	A physical-presence rule can impose a store trip on people with mobility barriers, episodic illness, sensory barriers or limited transportation.
EVIDENCE GAP REMAINS	No Quebec population study cited by Caffeine 404 counts neurodivergent adult energy-drink customers or adults who rely on delivery.

Why this matters if you never drink caffeine

An identification rule for an ordinary purchase normalizes disclosure where identity is not necessary. A later digital system could create data-breach risk and enable purchasing profiles. People who already face identity-based scrutiny would carry more of that burden. Quebec should not make low-stakes commerce contingent on proving who a customer is.

Method and status

Legal descriptions come from the assented Act and National Assembly record, while caffeine figures use Health Canada averages and stated product values. Calculations and advocacy are labelled; legal status last verified July 24, 2026.

Primary sources

Assented Act	publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/Fichiers_client/lois_et_reglements/LoisAnnuelles/en/2026/2026C11A.PDF
National Assembly record	assnat.qc.ca/en/travaux-parlementaires/projets-loi/projet-loi-9-43-3.html
Health Canada caffeine table	canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/food-additives/caffeine-foods.html
Quebec privacy guidance	cai.gouv.qc.ca/protection-renseignements-personnels/sujets-et-domaines-dinteret/pieces-identite

Write your MNA at caffeine404.ca/#action