

SUCH A CLAIM IS ECHOED IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY WHERE THE JOBLESS RATE IS HIGH. IT IS, HOWEVER, A QUESTIONABLE PROPOSITION ANYWHERE IN CANADA FOR IT RESTRICTS THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF CANADIANS AND CAN BE SELF-DEFEATING. IN THE CASE OF QUEBEC, THE ISSUE IS MORE COMPLEX BECAUSE THE MOTIVATION IS NOT ONLY, OR EVEN PRIMARILY ECONOMIC. AS EPITOMIZED BY BILL 101, ITS ESSENTIAL PURPOSE IS PROTECTION OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE AND, BY IMPLICATION, FRENCH CANADIANS IN QUEBEC.

FRANCOPHONES HAVE THE SUPPORT OF REASONABLE PEOPLE FOR TWO ENTIRELY DEFENSIBLE PROPOSITIONS: FRANCOPHONES SHOULD HAVE FULL AND EQUAL ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING CANADA ON THE BASIS OF MERIT, AND, WHERE THEIR NUMBERS WARRANT, THEY SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH SERVICES, INCLUDING EDUCATION OF THEIR FAMILIES, IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE. THERE IS NOT UNIVERSAL ANGLOPHONE ACCEPTANCE OF THESE PRINCIPLES, OF COURSE, BUT CANADIANS OF GOODWILL CAN SEE BOTH THE LOGIC AND JUSTICE, AS WELL AS THE NECESSITY FOR SUCH MEASURES. BUT, IT IS EQUALLY LOGICAL, JUST AND NECESSARY THAT ANGLOPHONES BE AWARE THAT WITHIN THE GENERALLY FRENCH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY, AND PARTICULARLY IN QUEBEC, THESE SAME PRINCIPLES MUST APPLY IN REVERSE: THAT, SUBJECT ONLY TO COMPETENCE, ANGLOPHONES HAVE EQUAL ACCESS WITH FRANCOPHONES TO ALL EMPLOYMENT AND