

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

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DOCUMENT 1-567/82/rev.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr PEARCE

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on means of initiating draft legislative instruments
by the European Parliament

PE 80.293/rev.

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas the fulfilment of the objectives of the European Communities depends upon, inter alia, the acquisition by the European Parliament of the full powers expected of an elected parliamentary body in a democratic political unit,
- B. whereas the acquisition of such powers by the European Parliament partly depends upon the ability to initiate legislation,
- C. whereas at present the European Parliament's ability to initiate legislation (i.e. to introduce "bills") is not only limited by the constitutional powers allocated to it but also by the fact that its own rules of procedure do not provide for the initiation of legislative documents,
- D. whereas the Parliament's present voting rules for the adoption of resolutions permit matters to go forward in the name of the Parliament when they, in fact, are only voted upon once in plenary session and may, on that occasion, only actively command the support of considerably less than half of Parliament's members; that the adoption of resolutions of the nature of legislative documents ("bills") may require a fuller manifestation of parliamentary support than the present voting system provides for,

resolves that:

1. The European Parliament should have a means of initiating draft legislative instruments, ("bills"), i.e. draft Regulations, Directives and Recommendations;
2. That the adoption of such draft legislation should require the votes of a sufficiently large number of members of the House (i.e. not just of those voting), perhaps a half or two-thirds, possibly voting more than once on each measure;
3. The President of the Parliament should instruct the competent committees to produce detailed proposals on this matter.