

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

13 January 1983

DOCUMENT 1-1150/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr DAVERN, Mr CRONIN, Mr FLANAGAN and
Mr LALOR

on behalf of the group of European Progressive Democrats

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the urgent need to draw up a new farm retirement
scheme

PE 82.625

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the worsening situation of people in Ireland in receipt of annuities under the farm retirement scheme,
- B. whereas since its inception in 1974 only 577 Irish farmers have availed of this scheme,
- C. whereas the EEC's farm retirement scheme has evidently been a total failure,
 1. Notes that the Community has failed those people who chose to accept the terms of the farm retirement scheme since they are now receiving less than the old age pension entitlement in Ireland;
 2. Draws attention to the fact that the allowance for a single person in receipt of an old age pension is now IR£1,791 per annum compared with a pension of IR£1,344 under the farm retirement scheme;
 3. Points out that the situation has been seriously reversed since 1947 when allowances under the farm retirement scheme were worth £400 per annum compared with £380 for an old age pension;
 4. Believes, moreover, that people who have accepted the farm retirement pension are being blatantly discriminated against as compared with entitlement under the old age pension since they are deprived of benefits such as free travel, free electricity, medical cards and other social welfare benefits;
 5. Insists, therefore, on a complete review of the present farm retirement scheme with a view to increasing payments at least in line with the old age pension and the extending of normal fringe benefits to those farmers who have already opted for the farm retirement scheme and those who may wish to be included in the scheme;
 6. Calls on the Commission to bring forward an initial report on the situation regarding such pensioners within the next three months as a matter of urgency;
 7. Proposes that when the Member States and the Commission are examining retirement systems in the light of the recommendation on flexible retirement, the operation of the farm retirement scheme should also be considered;
 8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council.