

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr COPPIETERS, Mrs DEKKER, Mr Van MINNEN
and Mrs VIEHOFF

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the granting of an automatic reduction in public
telecommunications charges to handicapped persons
and senior citizens in the Member States

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 118 of the Treaty of Rome, which commits the Member States to closer cooperation in the social field,
 - having regard to the fact that telecommunication media have made an invaluable contribution to the efforts to achieve European integration and are also an excellent practical means of achieving a more socially-oriented Community policy,
 - whereas handicapped persons and senior citizens often rely on telecommunications to keep in touch with the outside world,
 - whereas the main aim of a social policy must be to prevent the citizens of the Member States, and particularly those in less fortunate circumstances, from being alienated from society,
1. Requests the Council of the European Communities to issue a directive providing for a fifty per cent reduction in subscription, licence and installation charges for public telecommunications services such as telephones, radios and televisions to handicapped persons and people of sixty years of age and over in the Member States;
 2. Instructs its appropriate committees to work out the practical details;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and Council.