

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

17 April 1980

DOCUMENT 1-110/80

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr GHERGO, Mr GIAVAZZI, Mr SASSANO
and Mr LIMA

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on a health passport

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the fact that one of the prime objectives of the Community is to achieve a substantial measure of equality for the peoples of the Member States as regards basic human rights,
 - having regard to the fact that one of these basic rights is the possibility in the event of illness of obtaining medical care, irrespective of the Community country in which a Community citizen is resident,
 - having regard to the fact that the health services of the country in which a Community citizen is temporarily resident cannot always obtain the information on his or her state of health which is particularly vital in an emergency,
 - having regard moreover to the advisability of providing citizens of the Member States with an identity document for health purposes with which they can promptly obtain the medical treatment or any other type of assistance to which they are entitled under the regulations in force in the Community,
 - having regard to the fact that a document of this kind, preferably bearing an individual identification number, would make it easier for the host country to complete the formalities for obtaining reimbursement of the costs incurred from the appropriate health authorities.
 - noting that the question of a 'health passport' was one of the items on the agenda of the second meeting (1978) of the Council of Health Ministers which declared its willingness to consider Commission proposals on the subject,
1. Invites the Commission to submit, as soon as possible, a proposal for a directive requiring the Member States to introduce an international identity document designated 'health passport', in which would be recorded the information needed to identify the individual, such as a personal code number and the authority required to provide medical treatment in his or her country of residence;
 2. Considers it advisable, subject to the consent of the holder, to include in the 'health passport', clinical data which, should urgent medical care be required outside his normal country of residence, would provide immediate information on his blood group, any serious chronic illnesses requiring special therapeutic treatment and any allergies to particular drugs;
 3. Considers it necessary that the directive should also lay down the procedure for updating the 'health passport' in order to ensure that the information contained in it is as recent as possible.