EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

÷

1980 - 1981

2 February 1981

DOCUMENT 1-861/80

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr von WOGAU

on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

with request for urgent debate pursuant to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure¹

on tax-free allowances for travellers within the Community

٩

Signed by the following 22 members of the committee: Mr DELORS, chairman; Mr MACARIO and Mr DELEAU, vice-chairmen; Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO (deputizing for Mr FERNANDEZ), Mr BALFOUR,

1

Mr BEAZLEY, Mr BEUMER, Mr von BISMARCK, Mr BONACCINI, Mr DELOROZOY, Miss FORSTER, Mr GOUTHIER (deputizing for Mr PIQUET), Mr HERMAN, Mr LANGE, Mr LEONARDI, Mr MIHR, Mr MOREAU, Mr NYBORG, Mr PETRONIO, Mr PURVIS, Mr ROMUALDI and Mr von WOGAU

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission for these allowances to be increased with effect from 1 January 1980 (COM(79) 694 final),
- having regard to its opinion of 18 April 1980¹,
- having regard to the fact that the Commission has revised its proposal in accordance with the amendments proposed by the European Parliament (COM(80) 308 final),
- Notes that there has been no increase in real terms in the tax-free allowances for persons travelling between the Member States of the Community since 1972, and that the trend in rates of exchange has now resulted in one of the Member States having to reduce the maximum allowance (in terms of its national currency) unless the allowance in terms of EUA (= ECU) is increased;
- 2. Urges the Council to agree on an increase to at least 210 EUA in time for this summer's travel season; in this context, calls on Denmark in particular to end its opposition to such an increase in the interest of the Community as a whole, and thereby to play its part in increasing the sense of living in a community in all the Member States;
- Reiterates its proposal that a decision should at the same time be taken on further increases to be introduced in future years;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and to the Government and Parliament of Denmark.

JUSTIFICATION

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs wishes to draw the attention of the European Parliament to the fact that its proposal of 18 April 1980 for the tax-free limits for travellers within the Community to be increased to 210 EUA with effect from 1 July 1980 has not yet been adopted by the Council.

In an endeavour to convey to the citizens of the Community the sense of living in a Common Market, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs considers it a matter of urgency for the Council to adopt the increase in tax-free allowances before the 1981 travel season, an increase which is now a year overdue.

In view of the short period of time available for the Council to take its decision and for this decision to be converted into national legislation, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs asks for its unanimously adopted motion for a resolution to be dealt with by urgent procedure during the part-session of February 1981 as requested by 22 of its members. PE 71.029

¹ OJ No. C 117, 12.5.1980, p. 83

4.5