

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983-1984

5 October 1983

DOCUMENT 1-786/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr JANSSEN VAN RAAY, Mr MORELAND, Mr ALBERS,
Mr O'DONNELL, Mr MAHER, Mr MOORHOUSE and Mr KEY

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on airline passenger "bumping" (or, as officially described,
"Discrepancies in the reservations technique known as overbooking")

PE 86.861

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to Article 235 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,
 - B. having regard to the democratization of air transport since the Community was set up,
 - C. wishing to improve access to transport for the people living in the Community,
 - D. whereas not all Community airlines, when checking passengers in, allocate their seats to them by letter and number,
 - E. whereas the non-allocation of seats tends to cause jostling among passengers during embarkation, in which elderly people and those who have difficulty in moving or are carrying heavy packages are always left behind, with all this sometimes leading to slight accidents,
 - F. whereas the groups mentioned above have absolutely as much right as the other passengers to be able to occupy the seat of their choice on board,
 - G. whereas the increasingly widespread automation of check-in procedures virtually eliminates the already minimal cost of selecting seats on board aircraft at the point of check-in,
1. Requests the European Commission, after consulting the civil aviation authorities in the Member States and the representatives of scheduled and chartered air carriers, to draw up Community rules providing that all airlines shall institute a seat-selection system at the point of check-in for international air transport by aircraft with more than 100 seats;
 2. Requests its also to study ways of applying the same arrangement to internal transport by aircraft with more than 100 seats;
 3. Requests the governments of the Member States to urge air carriers registered in or serving their countries to make systematic use of the seat-selection system at the check-in point;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the governments of the Member States.