

Admission of non-resident carriers to national road passenger transport services

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The transport committee welcomed two Commission proposals on passenger transport by bus and coach, which were considered as an important step towards further liberalisation of this transport sector. In one proposal, the Commission set out the conditions for non-resident carriers operating national road passenger transport services, replacing Regulation 2454/92, the other contains common rules for the international carriage of passengers by coach and bus (amendment of Regulation 684/92). Rapporteur Mr Mark KILILEA supported both proposals, which greatly widen the scope of cabotage transport operations and introduce a "Community coach licence" into the legislation. This licence should eventually become the sole document required to prove that a EU carrier is authorized to provide passenger transport by bus and coach across the EU. The rapporteur has tabled a number of amendments to both proposals, seeking to avoid the risks of unfair competition and social dumping.