Basic information

1995/0353(SYN) SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
People with disabilities: EC parking card **Subject** 4.10.06 People with disabilities	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
TRAN Transport and Tourism	MEGAHY Thomas (PSE)	25/01/1996

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
TRAN Transport and Tourism		

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Fisheries	2063	1997-12-18
Social Affairs	2030	1997-10-07
Social Affairs	2102	1998-06-04

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
15/12/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0696	Summary
01/02/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
02/07/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
02/07/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0227/1996	
12/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
04/03/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0076	Summary
19/12/1997	Council position published	11329/1/1997	Summary
29/01/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
17/03/1998	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary

17/03/1998	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0098/1998	
30/03/1998	Debate in Parliament		Summary
04/06/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
04/06/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/06/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0353(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 075-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/4/09625

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0227/1996 OJ C 261 09.09.1996, p. 0004	02/07/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0700/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0367-0382	13/12/1996	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0098/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0006	17/03/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0174/1998 OJ C 138 04.05.1998, p. 0018-0026	31/03/1998	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	11329/1/1997 OJ C 062 26.02.1998, p. 0024	19/12/1997	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0696	15/12/1995	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1997)0076	04/03/1997	Summary

Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1998)0134	27/01/1998	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0411/1996 OJ C 174 17.06.1996, p. 0027	27/03/1996	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0307/1996 OJ C 042 10.02.1997, p. 0027	13/11/1996	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

EP/Council Recommendation 1998/0376
OJ L 167 12.06.1998, p. 0025-0028

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 15/12/1995 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: this draft recommendation seeks to improve road traffic safety by issuing disabled persons with a standardized parking card which is mutually recognized in all Member States so that they can use local parking facilities. CONTENT: Member States are recommended to: . issue a parking card for disabled people under national provisions but on the basis of the standardized Community model described in the Annex; . mutually recognize the cards in question, so that card holders may use the associated parking facilities available in the Member State in which they happen to be; . only issue this card to disabled persons with reduced mobility, given that these parking facilities aim to minimize the distances which disabled people need to move from their car; . implement these measures by 1 January 1998. An Annex contains a precise description and a model of the Community parking card, which is based on existing national parking cards and the driving licences directive. It is the same size as national cards and 2 /3 of the size of the Community model driving licence (106 mm long by 148 mm wide). It is blue (with a wheelchair-user symbol) and plastic-coated (to make forgery more difficult), with a non-plastic coated space for the holder's signature. Cards must contain precise information: . on the front: expiry date, name and stamp of issuing authority, name of issuing Member State, surrounded by the 12 stars, and car registration number (optional); . on the back: name of the card holder, date of birth, address and signature. It must also be stated here that the card must be clearly displayed and that it may be used throughout the Community in the appropriate places. Provisions concerning language are also laid down for Member States which wish to produce the card in a language other than an official language of the Community.

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 19/12/1997 - Council position

In its common position on the Community parking card for persons with disabilities, the Council took over 4 of the 6 amendments approved by Parliament at first reading. These amendments related to: - the transitional period before the introduction of Community cards: Community parking cards could be used in parallel with national cards in the Member States during a transitional period, as requested by the European Parliament, but the Council only envisaged national cards being replaced by Community cards in the longer term. As a result, national cards would continue to be used in parallel with Community cards for a certain period of time; - the information to appear on the cards: as Parliament hoped, the address and date of birth of the cardholder would not appear on the cards, nor would the vehicle registration number; - where the card was to be displayed for checking purposes. However, the Council did not accept Parliament's amendment outlining which disabled persons should be allowed to use the card (particularly those suffering from physical or mental impairment). It did include the concept of 'reduced mobility'. The Council also amended parts of the Commission's initial text. In addition to establishing a longer transitional period when national cards could be used (models existing in the Member States before 1 January 2000 could continue to be used after that date in the countries where they were issued until their replacement), the Council

allowed the Member States complete flexibility in terms of assigning the parking cards. From 1 January 1999, the parking cards introduced by each Member State in accordance with the Community model should be recognised in the other Member States and from 1 January 2000 the Member States should issue their own Community parking cards based on the uniform model described in the annex.

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 13/12/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Thomas MEGAHY (PSE, UK) Parliament was in favour of the introduction of a European parking card for disabled persons, able to be used throughout the territory of the Union. It would not be a substitute for existing national and regional cards but would be used in parallel. Parliament requested that the vehicle registration number and the date of birth and address of the holder should not appear on the card. The reverse of the card should, however, carry the name and family name, signature or other authorized mark and photograph of the holder. The card should be displayed in the front of the vehicle in such a way that only the front of the card is clearly visible for checking purposes.

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 27/01/1998 - Commission communication on Council's position

In its assessment of the common position of the Council on Community parking cards, the Commission indicated that it was able to accept the text adopted by the Council, which it felt was in keeping with the structure and objectives of its initial proposal.

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 27/03/1996 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

Whilst expressing the need for personal permits and for card holders to be able to hire or borrow a vehicle in another place or country, the Committee considers the proposal to be well thought-out, appropriate to achieve the declared objectives and that it should be implemented.

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 31/03/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In adopting the report by Mr Thomas MEGAHY (PSE, UK) on the parking card for people with disabilities, the European Parliament approved the common position of the Council unamended.

People with disabilities: EC parking card

1995/0353(SYN) - 04/03/1997 - Modified legislative proposal

In its amended proposal, the Commission included several amendments adopted by Parliament, in particularly those concerning: - the parking card must be based on the European model parking card as regards already existing parking cards (it may be used in parallel with the existing national or regional cards within a transition phase); - the card should be available to people suffering from physical, mental or psychological impairment; - the following information shall appear on the reverse: surname and forenames with signature or other authorized mark (the Commission included Parliament's amendment stating that the address and age should not appear); the card should not contain any information on the vehicle's registration number; - the card should be placed at the front of the vehicle in such a way that only the front of the card is clearly visible for checking purposes. Because of the time taken to reach a decision (cooperation procedure), the date of introduction has been changed from 1 January 1998 to 1 January 1999.