THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

SENATE



7th term

66th RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 2nd session held on 12 December 2008

on Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions:

Think Small First: A Small Business Act for Europe

(Senate Press no. K 114/06)

The Senate

I.

1. Welcomes

the Small Business Act as a global political framework for support of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises that should ease their burden within the highly competitive environment in the European and international arena;

2. Supports

the proposed measures to be introduced both on the European level as well as the national level, particularly the provisions resulting from the requests and needs of businesses;

3. Warns

in this respect that the EU Council should finalize its opinion only once it has opinions of all stakeholders participating in the consultations, including the European Parliament;

II.

1. Considers it appropriate

that the Small Business Act be politically binding to the highest extent and therefore appeals to the Government to promote, with regard to the conclusions of the EU Council on Small Business Act, a political commitment of the Member States to implement the measures proposed by the Commission;

2. Considers,

that only a thorough implementation of the Small Business Act principles can enable Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises to fully take advantage of the Internal Market, and therefore the evaluation of the Small Business Act implementation should be included in the annual evaluation of the Lisbon Strategy on the Community level and through National Reform Programmes on the level of the Member States, where it should have its independent section;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate

- about the way this position was taken into account and to provide the Senate with information on further proceeding of negotiations,
- about concrete measures which it will take or is taking toward implementation of the Small Business Act on the national level,

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this resolution to the European Commission.

Přemysl Sobotka Sign manual President of the Senate

Jaromír Štětina Sign manual Verifier of the Senate