



THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
9TH TERM

432nd

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 19th session held on 19th March 2014

on the Proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste to reduce the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags

/Senate Press no. N 102/09/

The Senate

1. Supports

the revision of the Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste because it perceives it as a suitable and effective tool for reducing the enormous consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags in the whole European Union;

2. Considers it right

that the proposal for a Directive, in accordance with the principle of proportionality, leaves Member States room for the choice of tools and measures to reduce the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags, and does not set a single numerical target;

II.

1. Recalls,

in accord with the long-term position, its Resolution No. 297 of 22nd August 2013 on the Green Paper on a European Strategy on Plastic Waste in the Environment, in which the Senate expressed the opinion that the main measures to deal with the issue of plastic waste include waste prevention and minimization as well as encouragement of producers to ensure the highest possible degree of recyclability of their products; it also found appropriate to consider the possibility of using plastic waste for energy generation in accordance with the European waste management hierarchy;

2. Is of the opinion

that the use of lightweight plastic carrier bags should not be prohibited completely; rather, the regulation should aim at making available alternatives to lightweight plastic carrier bags, for example bags made of environmental friendly materials, to consumers on a larger scale;

3. Requires,

in accord with the position of the Government of the Czech Republic, that the Directive should not apply to small bags used in the food industry for packing bakery products, fruit and vegetables, delicatessen food or meat products during shopping because these bags are not used for carrying groceries, but primarily have a hygienic role and it is not possible to replace them with a different alternative for a reasonable price, while fulfilling their hygienic function equally well;

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 the further proceeding of negotiations;

2. Authorises

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

Milan Štěch
sign manual
President of the Senate

Radko Martínek
sign manual
Senate Verifier