

Courtesy translation



THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
11TH TERM

496TH

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 17th session held on 15th August 2018

on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment /Senate Print no. N 154/11, COM(2018) 340/

The Senate

I.

Consistently appreciates

the efforts focused on the reduction of plastic waste and its impact on the environment;

II.

1. Fully supports

- a) the ban of proposed single-use plastic products for which available and affordable products made from sustainable materials exist;
- b) the proposed consumption reduction of plastic cups for beverages and food containers;
- c) in general also the ambitious targets for the separate collection of plastic beverages bottles;

2. Requests, however, in accordance with the position of the Government, justification and clarification of

- a) the requirement for inseparable attachment of the lid to the plastic beverages bottles because of its possible additional economic impacts;
- b) the target year in which the Member States will be obliged to ensure the collection of 90 % of single-use plastic beverages bottles placed on the market in a given year;
- c) the scope of proposed extension of producer responsibility for products which should be subject to extended producer responsibility, particularly within the meaning of the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC for the products that are not subject to Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste;

3. Is of the opinion

that the proposed measures will also need to be linked with extensive awareness raising campaigns and environmental education, which will be focused on the behavioural change of the consumers and enterprises, as well as with investment in adequate infrastructure for plastic waste treatment;

4. Appreciates

- a) the voluntary actions and commitments of enterprises, as well as the initiative of the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic, which should lead to consumption reduction of single-use plastic products;
- b) the effort of the EU to lead the way on reducing plastic waste; points out, however, that only 19 % of global plastic production comes from the EU whereas almost 50 % is produced in the Asia and therefore restriction of specific plastic products represents only a partial solution with a limited impact;

5. Therefore calls upon

the EU to further a global solution for reduction of plastic waste and particularly to invest in adequate infrastructure which would be able to treat plastic waste produced on the European continent, so that it will not be necessary to export this waste to third countries and the EU will also no longer be divesting itself of the responsibility for the adverse impact of this plastic waste on the environment of these third countries;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this resolution was taken into account and about further development of negotiations once the political agreement of the required number of Member States on the main elements of the proposal is reached, or at an earlier time, should the results of negotiations in the Council begin to depart considerably from the position of the Czech Republic expressed in the General Position of the Government;

2. Authorises

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

Milan Štěch
sign manual
President of the Senate

Tomáš Grulich
sign manual
Senate Verifier