


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	1996/2035(INI)	Procedure completed
The rights of the disabled		
Subject 4.10.06 People with disabilities		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	PETI Petitions		Appointed 19/03/1996
			PPE BANOTTI Mary Elizabeth
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights		Appointed 25/09/1996
			V ULLMANN Wolfgang

Key events			
26/02/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/11/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
20/11/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0391/1996	
12/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0701/1996	Summary
13/12/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/01/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/2035(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 227-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PETI/4/07645

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0391/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0003	20/11/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0701/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0367-0389	13/12/1996	EP	Summary

The rights of the disabled

At the petitions committee Mary Banotti MEP (Ireland, EPP) presented her draft report on the rights of disabled people. This report is the result of the many petitions that have been brought to the attention of the committee in the past few years and have included issues such as rights to information and rights to access. Mrs Banotti has undertaken an extensive consultation process by contacting MEPS and NGOs in the European Disability Forum. Her investigations have shown that despite making up 10% of the population disabled people do not enjoy the whole spectrum of civil rights that non-disabled people have access to. This report, unanimously agreed after amendments, represents the first step in the path to increased representation of people with disabilities. Mrs Banotti urged that all MEPs on the Committee consider with care the translated versions in their respective languages. The report calls for a non- discrimination clause on the grounds of the disability in the revised Treaty on European Union and to ensure that existing national legislation is fully complied with. ?

The rights of the disabled

In adopting the report by Mrs Mary BANOTTI (PPE, IRL) on the rights of disabled people, the European Parliament called on Member States to include a non-discrimination clause on the grounds of disability in the revised Treaty on European Union, to adopt a new legal basis for social programmes, to introduce non-discriminatory measures and to treat the rights of disabled persons as a civil law issue. It urged the Commission to present a new action programme on equal opportunities for the disabled and to conduct censuses in all Member States in order to improve the statistics on the causes and severity of the various forms of handicap. Parliament called on the Community institutions and Member States to revise their policy on access and employment and also urged them to introduce measures to ensure that the freedom of movement of blind and partially-sighted persons was not restricted by prohibitions on access to guide dogs. ?