



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

2013/2135(INI)

27.9.2013

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and the
Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on a 2030 framework for climate and energy policies
(2013/2135(INI))

Rapporteur: David Casa

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committees responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Supports the Commission's initiative suggesting an early agreement on the 2030 framework for climate and energy policies, with particular attention to its objective of progressing towards a competitive economy which can create new opportunities for jobs and growth;
2. Recalls that energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors could create five million jobs by 2020, as forecast by the Commission¹; points out that the transition to a low-carbon economy is expected to have very diverse effects in terms of the overall levels of skills required;
3. Calls for measures to be taken to meet and match the skills composition needed in the newly created jobs; underlines that active labour market policies have to be targeted and designed to meet labour demand needs, in order to avoid the lack of qualified labour in emerging low-carbon technologies;
4. Calls for measures facilitating adaptation of workers in the most affected high-carbon sectors, such as electricity production, transport, construction and energy-intensive industries, to the transition to a green and resource-efficient economy;
5. Stresses the need to address in the new framework the consequences of the economic crisis as regards the affordability of energy for final consumers – households and businesses;
6. Supports the idea of enhancing access to finance for investments in Member States with less economic capacity in order to provide sufficient support for changes in industrial processes and energy use that could have a positive impact on jobs.

¹ Communication entitled 'Towards a job-rich recovery' (COM(2012)0173).