



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure
on the marketing of eggs from hens housed in outlawed cages

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United in diversity

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0087/2010

Written declaration on the marketing of eggs from hens housed in outlawed cages

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Council Directive 1999/74/EC of 19 July 1999 laying down minimum standards for the protection of laying hens,
 - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas it is concerned that a number of Member States will fail to implement Council Directive 1999/74/EC by the required date,
 - B. whereas it is concerned that cheap eggs and egg products from producers in Member States using outlawed cages will be marketed after 1 January 2012, adversely impacting upon producers using the more capital-intensive welfare-friendly cages,
 - C. whereas it is concerned that this illegal price advantage will undermine advances in the field of animal welfare,
 - D. whereas it is concerned that, unless the law is enforced, producers complying with the EU regulations will be forced out of business, owing to the increased overheads incurred in complying with this legislation,
1. Calls on the Commission to strictly monitor that the Directive is fully implemented by 1 January 2012 to avoid any distortion of the market owing to unlawful competition by producers profiting from price dumping arising from the lack of application of the above-mentioned rules on animal welfare. For the same reasons, calls on the Commission to act without delay against Member States who are not ensuring compliance of their production with the provisions of Directive 1999/74/EC within the deadline imposed by the directive;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.