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Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

**PROVISIONAL
2007/2095(INI)**

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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

on Better Regulation in the European Union
(2007/2095(INI))

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs calls on the Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Supports the Commission's aim to improve the quality of legislation and to reduce the legislative burden; believes that the measures outlined in the Commission communication demonstrate a clear and ongoing commitment to that aim, but considers that even greater efforts are required in a number of areas to ensure that the maximum economic benefit is derived from internal market legislation;
2. Accepts that Council as well as Parliament must consider the impact of their amendments upon the Commission's impact assessment; stresses the need for cost-benefit analyses that reflect the regulatory cost structures when directives are implemented by way of national legislation and change the regulatory framework within which companies and individuals operate;
3. Deplores Member States' practice of 'gold plating' and calls upon the Commission to investigate what further measures might be taken to prevent it, including the introduction of a right of direct action for citizens; calls for 'follow-up impact assessments' analysing how decisions are in fact implemented in Member States and at local level; supports the increased appropriate use of regulations;
4. Recalls the importance of the judicious use of 'sunset clauses' in ensuring that legislation remains pertinent;
5. Encourages the Commission to investigate alternatives to legislation to improve the functioning of the internal market, including self regulation and the mutual recognition of national rules;
6. Underlines that simplification is also required in the Commission's interaction with citizens e.g. in the areas of procurement, financial services, research programmes, State aid rules and grant applications.