



2017/2955(RPS)

20.11.2017

DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 106(2) and (3) of the Rules of Procedure

on the draft Commission regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the use of sweeteners in fine bakery wares
(2017/2955 (RSP))

Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

François Grossetête (on behalf of EPP)

European Parliament resolution on the draft Commission regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the use of sweeteners in fine bakery wares

(D052936/02 – 2017/0000(RPS))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the draft Commission regulation amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the use of sweeteners in fine bakery wares (D052936/02),
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on food additives¹, and in particular Article 10(3) thereof,
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008² establishing a common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings, and in particular Article 7(5) thereof,
 - having regard to the opinion delivered on 25 September 2017 by the committee referred to in Article 14 of Regulation (EC) N° 1331/2008
 - having regard to the repeal of the Directive (EU) No 2009/39 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 on foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses,
 - having regard to Article 5a(3)(b) of Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission³,
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety,
 - having regard to Rule 106(2), (3) and (4)(c) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas obesity varies among EU Member States, from 9% to 26% of the adult population (on average 16% in 2014)⁴; whereas, depending on the country, the proportion of overweight and obese persons varies respectively between 30 and 70%, and 10 and 30%; whereas the prevalence of obesity has doubled over the past 20 years in many

¹ OJ L 354, 31.12.2008, p. 16.

² OJ L 354, 31.12.2008, p.1.

³ OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

⁴ OECD/EU (2016), « Overweight and obesity among adults », in Health at a Glance : Europe 2016 : State of Health in the EU Cycle, OECD Publishing, Paris
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/health_glance_eur-2016-26-en

Member States¹;

- B. whereas the prevalence of chronic diseases such as diabetes is rising, due to changes in lifestyle and ageing population, affecting 7% of adults in Europe in 2014²;
 - C. whereas health expenditure allocated to prevent and treat diabetes and its complications in EU Member States was estimated at about €100 billion in 2013³;
 - D. whereas sugar consumption is one of the underlying processes in type 2 diabetes, of which weight gain/obesity is the main cause;
 - E. whereas products containing sweeteners are one of the only healthy alternatives for consumers who do not wish to consume sugars. These kinds of products can be bars, cookies, cakes consumed by people with diabetes, and by people wishing to control their weight;
 - F. whereas the key innovation from fine bakery wares is to offer products with reduced sugar content;
 - G. whereas an application for the authorisation of four additional sweeteners in fine bakery wares was filed in 2008 and is still pending; whereas industry was advised to delay their application due to agenda reasons and was asked for further clarification ;
 - H. whereas the use of sweeteners is essential to maintain fine bakery wares on the market legally, after the repeal of Directive 2009/39/EC;
 - I. whereas, as defined in the present amendment proposed by the Commission, in order to allow economic operators to adapt to the new rules, it is appropriate to provide for a transitional period during which fine bakery products for special nutritional uses containing any of those sweeteners may continue to be marketed;
1. Opposes adoption of the draft Commission regulation;
 2. Considers that the draft Commission regulation fails to respect the principle of proportionality as the proposition to ban sweeteners in fine bakery products for special nutritional uses will no longer permit to maintain those bakery products on the EU market;
 3. Warns that withdrawal of those products from the market would be of particular concern for people with special dietary requirements and especially those in need of a low-sugar diet;
 4. Fears that the deletion of these additives will moreover impede the possibility of developing fine bakery wares with nutritional improvements;

¹ EPRS Briefing 2015

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2015/557003/EPRS_ATA%282015%29557003_EN.pdf

² OECD/EU (2016), « Diabetes prevalence », in Health at a Glance : Europe 2016 : State of Health in the EU Cycle, OECD Publishing, Paris
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/health_glance_eur-2016-18-en

5. Underlines that the draft Commission regulation will not allow food business operators to comply in due time with prescriptive measures;
6. Calls on the Commission to modify the draft regulation by introducing a transitional solution with a two-year minimum period, thereby providing industry with the necessary time to obtain an authorisation for alternative sweeteners for use in fine bakery wares which are energy-reduced or with no added sugars.
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.