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NEWS REPORT

Country:	France
Title:	Bill relating to the authorisation and repression of parking of Travellers amending the law N° 2000-614 of 5 July 2000 relating to the parking and domicile of Travellers
Date:	31 October 2018
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Improve regulation and repression of parking of Travellers
Ground of discrimination:	Race/ethnic origin
Source:	Legislation
Field:	Housing

Content

Policy development: On 23 October 2018, the Senate has adopted without modification from the text adopted in the National Assembly a Bill, proposed by the Republican Group with the support of Government, intended to amend the law N° 2000-614 of 5 July 2000 relating to the parking spaces and domicile of Travellers, in order to simplify relations between Mayors and Travellers and facilitate repression of illegal occupation of land and parking.

Obligations to implement parking space are determined in relation to administrative units that correspond to groups of cooperating cities and towns that collectively manage parking spaces (article 1).

For the first time, the towns that have met their obligation to provide Travellers with parking space may forbid travellers to park in any other area then that provided for that purpose, even if the other towns of the wider cooperative administrative area have not collectively implemented their obligations (article 3).

The law creates the possibility to unilaterally impose a fine of EUR 500 in case of illegal parking, thus facilitating repression by local authorities (article 4).

In addition, in case of public prosecution before the penal courts for illegal occupation of land, penal sanctions are doubled, bringing maximum sanctions to 12 months in prison and a EUR 7 500 fine.

As regards important events where more than one hundred and fifty caravans arrive in a town, assemble and require parking, the law requires that local authorities be informed three months in advance of all such gatherings or massive passage of caravans related to such events (article 2 amending article 9-2 of Law 2000-614).

Key points of analysis: This legislation was far more repressive in its initial conception. It is the result of massive negotiations between all parties over more than a year. It intends to respond to difficulties of local authorities in their relationship with Travellers.

Internet link source: <https://www.senat.fr/petite-loi-ameli/2018-2019/33.html>.