

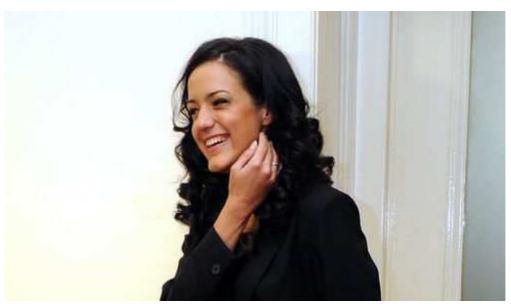
Bulgarian parliament legalizes surrogacy on first reading

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Sofia. The Bulgarian parliament has adopted the first reading of an amending and supplementing bill to the Family Code, legalizing surrogacy, **FOCUS News Agency** reported.

The mover of the bill is Kalina Krumova, an MP from Ataka party. 64 MPs voted in favor of the bill, 6 – against and 17 abstained.



Kalina Krumova

Photo: Krassimir Yuskesseliev

Before the voting Krumova said surrogacy existed in Bulgaria even now, but it was not legal or the people who needed it were going to countries like Ukraine where surrogacy is legal and allowed even for foreigners.

More than 270,000 Bulgarian families have reproductive problems, said Krumova.

Lyuben Kornezov, an MP from Coalition for Bulgaria, said he was in favor of some of the types of surrogate motherhood, but said he would vote against the bill, because the parliament had to vote on laws, not ideas.

The MPs from the ruling party Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria supported the bill. Vesela GIZDEVA