

March-April 2010

The Council Caller

Legislative Issue

The Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics (C-FARE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the application of economics to food, agricultural, and resource issues at the national level. *The Council Caller, Legislative Issue* is an e-newsletter provided by C-FARE with informational updates for agricultural and applied economists.

Consumer Concerns, Food, Health and Safety

To view the legislation visit <http://thomas.loc.gov/>, select the option that will allow you to search by Bill Number.

Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HR 4590	Referred to Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities	2/3/2010	Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-7)	School Meal Safety and Standards Act
SB 3127	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	3/16/2010	Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (NY)	A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require regular updating of the supplemental foods provided under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children.
SB 3093	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	3/9/2010	Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. (PA)	A bill to require semiannual indexing of certain Federal child nutrition programs.
SB 3123	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	3/16/2010	Senator Patrick Leahy (VT)	Growing Farm to School Programs Act of 2010
SB 3126	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	3/20/2010	Senator Amy Klobuchar (MN)	Healthy Local Policies for Schools Act of 2010
HB 4750	Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture	2/2/2010	Congressman Mark Schauer (MI-7)	Meat Contamination Prevention Act of 2010
SB 3040	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	2/25/2010	Senator Richard Lugar (IN)	To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide children from rural areas with better access to meals served through the summer food service program for children and certain child care programs.
SB 3114	Referred to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	3/15/2010	Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (NY)	A bill to improve communication to consumers when there is a food recall.

Future Technologies and Infrastructure Investments

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 1733	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 267 under General Orders.	9/30/2009	Senator John Kerry (MA)	To create clean energy jobs, promote energy independence, reduce global warming pollution, and transition to a clean energy economy.

SB 3056	Referred to Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	3/2/2010	Senator Ron Wyden (OR)	To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to repeal a section of that Act relating to exportation and importation of natural gas.
HB 4736	Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.	3/3/2010	Congressman Charles Wilson (OH-6)	To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize student loan forgiveness for certain individuals employed in advanced energy professions.

Agriculture's Global Competitiveness and Profitability

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 4418	Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.	1/12/2010	Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-7)	Livestock Farmer Risk Reduction Act
HRes 995	Placed on the House Calendar No. 154.	12/19/2009	Congressman John Boozman (AR-3)	Of inquiry requesting the President to transmit to the House of Representatives all information in the possession of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency relating to nutrient management of the Illinois River Watershed, Arkansas and Oklahoma.
SR 411	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	2/9/2010	Senator Blanche Lincoln (AR)	A resolution recognizing the importance and sustainability of the United States hardwoods industry and urging that United States hardwoods and the products derived from United States hardwoods be given full consideration in any program to promote construction of environmentally preferable commercial, public, or private buildings.
HR 1124	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	2/26/2010	Congresswoman Connie Mack (FL-14)	Supporting President Obama and his agenda to strengthen United States trade relations in Asia and with key partners like South Korea, Panama, and Colombia.

Economic Opportunities in Rural Areas

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 4785	Referred to Committees on Agriculture, Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.	3/9/2010	Congressman James Clyburn (SC-6)	To amend the miscellaneous rural development provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities that will use the funds to make loans to consumers to implement energy efficiency measures involving structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the-shelf technologies to reduce home energy use.

SB 3102	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	3/10/2019	Senator Jeff Merkley (OR)	Rural Energy Savings Program Act
SB 3085	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	3/5/2010	Senator Max Baucus (MT)	A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to improve the business and industry direct and guaranteed loan program of the Department of Agriculture.

Environmental and Natural Resource Issues

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 3644	Referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.	9/24/2009	Congresswoman Lois Capps (CA-23)	Ocean, Coastal, and Watershed Education Act
HB 3650	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 318 under General Orders.	9/25/2009	Congressman Brian Baird (WA-3)	Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2010
HR 1180	Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.	3/12/2010	Congressman Alcee Hastings (FL-23)	Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the policy of the United States on wild animals at the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
SB 3063	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	3/3/2010	Senator Harry Reid (NV)	Invasive Species Emergency Response Fund Act

Other Legislation

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HRes 1137	On agreeing to the resolution Agreed to by recorded vote: 212 - 209 (Roll no. 88).	3/4/2010	Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-5)	Providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

If you have any feedback for C-FARE or would like to inform us of a research area you have been working on, please contact Tamara Wagester, Executive Director at 202-408-8522 or by e-mail tamarawagester@cfare.org. If you are not currently getting our monthly e-newsletter directly from C-FARE, and would like to subscribe to "The Council Caller", please send an E-mail directly to CFAREinfo@aol.com.

C-FARE is a non-profit, non-partisan association actively working to represent agricultural and applied economists in matters of science policy, priority setting, and budget determination at the federal level, and to collaborate with other scientific organizations and government agencies in these activities.