

August 2008

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 a monthly 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
SB 2688	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.	7/15/2008	Senator Daniel K. Inouye (HI)	Commercial Seafood Consumer Protection Act
SB 3267	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	7/15/2008	Senator Sherrod Brown (OH)	Safe And Fair Enforcement and Recall for Meat, Poultry, and Food Act of 2008

Future Technologies and Infrastructure Investments

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
HB 3221	Became Public Law No: 110-289	7/30/2008	Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (CA-8)	A bill to provide needed housing reform and for other purposes. <i>Note: Previously H.R. 3221 was the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act. Omnibus energy legislation was enacted in H.R.6, which became Public Law 110-140 on 12/19/2007.</i>
SB 3268	Motion to commit to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry to report back.	7/15/2008	Senator Harry Reid (NV)	Stop Excessive Energy Speculation Act of 2008
SB 3266	Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.	7/15/2008	Senator John Warner (VA)	A bill to require Congress and Federal departments and agencies to reduce the annual consumption of gasoline of the Federal Government.
SB 3240	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	7/10/2008	Senator Jeff Sessions (AL)	A bill to promote energy production and security in the United States, and for other purposes.

Agriculture's Global Competitiveness and Profitability

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 2120	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 879 under General Orders.	10/1/2007	Senator Robert Menendez (NJ)	Social Investment and Economic Development for the Americas Act of 2007
SB 3248	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	7/10/2008	Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (CT)	A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to clarify the treatment of purchases of certain commodity futures contracts and financial instruments.
SB 3238	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	7/10/2008	Senator Tim Johnson (SD)	Foot and Mouth Disease Prevention Act of 2008
HB 6530	Referred to the Committees: Ways and Means, Rules, and Homeland Security	7/17/2008	Congressman Charles Rangel (NY-15)	Trade Enforcement Act of 2008
SB 3251	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	7/10/2008	Senator John Thune (SD)	A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act and the Trade Act of 1974 to authorize advance payments under the supplemental revenue assistance program.
SB 3255	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	7/11/2008	Senator Carl Levin (MI)	A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to provide for the oversight of large trades of over-the-counter energy and agricultural contracts to prevent price manipulation and excessive speculation, and for other purposes.

Environmental and Natural Resource Issues

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 3256	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	7/11/2008	Senator Barbara Boxer (CA)	Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act - "FLAME Act"
HB 3981	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 867 under General Orders.	10/29/2007	Congressman Brad Miller (NC-13)	Preserve America and Save America's Treasures Act
HB 6452	Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.	7/10/2008	Congressman Earl Blumenauer (OR-3)	Trade and Environment Enforcement (Green 301) Act
HB 6533	Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.	7/17/2008	Congressman Jerry Moran (KS-1)	To require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out conservation reserve program notice CRP-598, entitled the "Voluntary Modification of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Contract for Critical Feed Use".

Other Legislation

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 5618	Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.	7/15/2008	Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (GU)	National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008- to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes.
SB 294	Speaker appointed conferees - from the Committee on Science and Technology	1/16/2007	Senator Frank Lautenberg (NJ)	Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2007Surface Transportation and Rail Security Act of 2007- A bill to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes.
SB 3289	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 890.	7/21/2008	Senator Herb Kohl (WI)	An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.