

February 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.

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 5161	Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote.	1/29/2008	Congressman David Wu (OR-1)	Green Transportation Infrastructure Research and Technology Transfer Act

Agriculture's Global Competitiveness and Profitability

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 5102	Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.	1/23/2008	Congressman Ken Calvert (CA-22)	ON TIME Act of 2007 Our Nation's Trade, Infrastructure, Mobility, and Efficiency Act of 2007
HB 5264	Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.	2/7/2008	Congressman Charles Rangel (NY-15)	To extend certain trade preference programs, and for other purposes.
SB 2611	Referred to the Committee on Finance.	2/7/2008	Senator Byron Dorgan (ND)	A bill to make bills implementing trade agreements subject to a point of order unless certain conditions are met.
HR 990	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	2/12/2008	Congressman Steve Chabot (CA-7)	Encouraging the accelerated removal of agricultural subsidies of industrialized countries to alleviate poverty and promote growth, health, and stability in the economies of African countries.

Economic Opportunities in Rural Areas

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 3873	Received in the Senate and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.	10/17/2007	Congressman Paul Hodes (NH-2)	Section 515 Rural Housing Property Transfer Improvement Act of 2007

Environmental and Natural Resource Issues

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 4933	Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.	1/3/2008	Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo (GU)	Captive Wildlife Safety Technical Amendments Act of 2008
HB 5106	Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans.	1/23/2008	Congressman Neil Abercrombie (HI-1)	National Marine Mammal Research Program Act of 2007
HB 5132	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Natural Resources.	1/23/2008	Congresswoman Hilda Solis (CA-23)	Environmental Justice Renewal Act
SB 2549	Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.	1/23/2008	Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton (NY)	Environmental Justice Renewal Act
HB 5216	Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	1/29/2008	Congress Mark Udall (CO-2)	Wildfire Risk Reduction and Renewable Biomass Utilization Act
SB 2593	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	2/5/2008	Senator Jeff Bingaman (NM)	Forest Landscape Restoration Act of 2008
HB 5263	Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.	2/7/2008	Congressman Raul Grijalva (AZ-7)	Forest Landscape Restoration Act
SB 2626	Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.	2/12/2008	Senator Jeff Bingaman (OH)	A bill to authorize certain programs and activities in the Forest Service, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

HB 5351	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	2/12/2008	Congressman Charles Rangel (NY-15)	To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation.
HB 5425	Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	2/13/2008	Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ-6)	To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to extend the authorized time period for rebuilding of certain overfished fisheries, and other purposes.
HB 5452	Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	2/14/2008	Congresswoman Lois Capps (CA-23)	Coastal State Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2008
HB 5453	Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	2/14/2008	Congresswoman Lois Capps (CA-23)	Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act of 2008
HB 5437	Referred to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Science and Technology, Oversight and Government Reform, Armed Services, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Ways and Means.	2/14/2008	Congressman Mike Ross (AR-4)	To promote alternative and renewable fuels, domestic energy production, conservation, and efficiency, to increase American energy independence, and for other purposes.

Other Legislation

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 2580	Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	1/30/2008	Senator Sherrod Brown (OH)	A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the participation in higher education of, and to increase opportunities in employment for, residents of rural areas.
SR 440	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	1/13/2008	Senator Sherrod Brown (OH)	A resolution recognizing soil as an essential natural resource, and soils professionals as playing a critical role in managing our Nation's soil resources.
HRes 956	Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 214 - 190 (Roll no. 33).	2/6/2008	Congresswoman Betty Sutton (OH-13)	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4137) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.