

June-July 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.

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### Consumer Concerns, Food, Health and Safety

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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 3108	Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	06/10/2008	Senator John Kerry (MA)	A bill to require the President to call a White House Conference on Food and Nutrition.

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### Future Technologies and Infrastructure Investments

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 6186	Referred to Subcommittee on Energy and Environment	06/04/2008	Congressman Edward Markey (MA-7)	Investing in Climate Action and Protection Act- to direct the Administrator of the EPA to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases, and for other purposes.
SB 3124	Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	06/12/2008	Senator Gordon Smith (OR)	Community College Sustainability- to provide for workforce training and education in the fields of renewable energy and efficiency, green technology, and sustainable environmental practices.
SB 3130	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	06/12/2008	Senator Richard Durbin (IL)	A bill to provide energy price relief by authorizing greater resources and authority for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and for other purposes.
SB 3131	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	06/12/2008	Senator Dianne Feinstein (CA)	A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to ensure the application of speculation limits to speculators in energy markets, and for other purposes.
SB 3134	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	06/12/2008	Senator Bill Nelson (FL)	A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to require energy commodities to be traded only on regulated markets, and for other purposes.
HB 6324	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means	06/19/2008	Congressman Mark Udall (CO-2)	Imported Ethanol Facilitation Act

SB 2355	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 769 under General Orders.	11/14/2007	Senator Maria Cantwell (WA)	Climate Change Adaptation Act- to amend the National Climate Program Act to enhance the ability of the United States to develop and implement climate change adaptation programs and policies
HB 6316	Referred to several committees for consideration of provisions related to each committee	06/16/2008	Congressman Lloyd Doggett (TX-25)	To reduce global greenhouse gas emissions through the creation of a domestic carbon market and international trade measures, and to direct the revenue there from to public interests.

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## **Agriculture's Global Competitiveness and Profitability**

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<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date Introduced</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Bill Summary and Link</b>
HB 6124	Became Public Law No: 110-246	05/22/2008	Congressman Collin Peterson (MN-7)	Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008- To provide for the continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.
HB 6148	Referred to Committee on Ways and Means and Committee on Rules	05/22/2008	Congressman Peter A. DeFazio (OR-4)	Trade Agreement Benchmarks and Accountability Act- To make bills implementing trade agreements subject to a point of order unless certain conditions are met, and for other purposes.
SJR 38	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 824 under General Orders.	06/05/2008	Senator Chuck Grassley (IA)	A joint resolution waiving certain provisions of the Trade Act of 1974 relating to the appointment of a Deputy United States Trade Representative.

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## **Economic Opportunities in Rural Areas**

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<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date Introduced</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Bill Summary and Link</b>
SB 3119	Referred to the Committee on Finance	06/12/2008	Senator Susan Collins (ME)	To stimulate the economy by encouraging energy efficiency, infrastructure and workforce investment, homeownership retention, and by amending the Internal Revenue Code
HB 6249	Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services	06/12/2008	Congressman John R. "Randy" Kuhl, Jr. (NY-29)	To establish a direct loan program for providing energy efficiency improvements for single family housing, and for other purposes.
HB 6267	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and Committee on Education and Labor	06/12/2008	Congressman Bart Stupak (MI-1)	To make the Davis-Bacon Act applicable to rural development loan and loan guarantee programs.
HB 6220	Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor	06/10/2008	Congressman John Kline (MN-2)	To amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to make non-union training programs eligible for Federal funding under the "Green Jobs" program

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## Environmental and Natural Resource Issues

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 3043	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources	05/20/2008	Senator Claire McCaskill (MO)	A bill to improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property by requiring the development of a multipurpose cadastre of Federal and real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories
HB 6171	Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform	06/03/2008	Congressman Daniel Lungren (CA-3)	National Capital Region Leadership in Environmental and Energy Stewardship Commission Act
HB 5541	House Budget Committee granted an extension for further consideration ending June 27, 2008	03/06/2008	Congressman Nick J. Rahall, II (WV-3)	Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act (FLAME Act)
SB 3126	Referred to the Committee on Finance	06/12/2008	Senator Norm Coleman (MN)	A bill to provide for the development of certain traditional and alternative energy resources, and for other purposes.
HB 6260	Referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology	06/12/2008	Congressman Randy J. Forbes (VA-4)	New Manhattan Project for Energy Independence- promoting research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of technologies through a system of grants and prizes.
SB 2593	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 802 under General Orders.	02/05/2008	Senator Jeff Bingaman (NM)	Forest Landscape Restoration Act of 2008- to establish a program at the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior to carry out collaborative ecological restoration treatments for priority forest landscapes on public land

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## Other Legislation

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 3047	Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	05/21/2008	Senator Barack Obama (IL)	A bill to provide for the coordination of the Nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education initiatives.
HB 6263	Referred to Committee on Science and Technology, and Committee on Education and Labor	06/12/2008	Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30)	To increase awareness of the existence of and to overcome gender bias in academic science and engineering through research and training, and for other purposes.
HB 6314	Referred to House Committee on Science and Technology	06/19/2008	Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30)	Fulfilling the Potential of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Act of 2008- to overcome gender bias in academic science and engineering through research and training, and for other purposes.