

October 2007

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
HB 3610	Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	9/20/2007	Congressman John Dingell (MI-10)	Food and Drug Import Safety Act of 2007
SB 2066	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	9/18/2007	Senator Barack Obama (IL)	A bill to establish nutrition and physical education standards for schools.
HB 3624	Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	9/20/2007	Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ-6)	To establish a comprehensive program to ensure the safety of food products intended for human consumption which are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration.
SB 1953	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	8/2/2007	Senator Russell Feingold (WI)	A bill to amend the Agricultural Manufacturing Act of 1946 to require labeling of raw agricultural forms of ginseng, including the country of harvest, and other purposes.

Future Technologies and Infrastructure Investments

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 1933	Placed on the Union Calendar No. 188	4/18/2007	Congressman Mark Udall (CO-2)	Department of Energy Carbon Capture and Storage Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 2007
HB 2635	Placed on the Union Calendar No. 187	6/7/2007	Congressman Henry Waxman (CA-30)	Carbon-Neutral Government Act of 2007
HB 2850	Referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation	6/25/2007	Congressman Phil Gingrey (GA-11)	Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2007

SB 838	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 374 under General Orders.	3/12/2007	Senator Gordon Smith (OR)	United States-Israel Energy Cooperation Act
HB 3593	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	9/19/2007	Congressman Nick Lampson (TX-22)	Smart Energy Tax Relief Act of 2007
HB 2773	Placed on the Union Calendar No. 189	6/19/2007	Congressman Nick Lampson (TX-22)	Biofuels Research and Development Enhancement Act
HB 3274	Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.	8/1/2007	Congressman Steve Israel (NY-2)	United States-China Energy Cooperation Act
HRes. 615	On agreeing to the resolution by the Yeas and Nays: 215 - 191 (Roll no. 826).	1/22/2007	Congressman Peter Welch (VT)	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3221) moving the United States toward greater energy independence and security, developing innovative new technologies, reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs, protecting consumers, increasing clean renewable energy production, and modernizing our energy infrastructure, and for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2776) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation.
HRes 636	On agreeing to the resolution by the Yeas and Nays: 222 - 181 (Roll no. 860).	9/6/2007	Congressman Peter Welch (VT)	Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1908) to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.
HB 3221	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 340 under General Orders.	7/30/2007	Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (CA-8)	New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act Advanced Geothermal Energy Research and Development Act of 2007 Biofuels Research and Development Enhancement Act Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000
HB 2774	Placed on the Union Calendar No. 190.	6/19/2007	Congressman Gabrielle Giffords (AZ-8)	Solar Energy Research and Advancement Act of 2007
HB 3236	Placed on the Union Calendar No. 191.	7/31/2007	Congressman Rick Boucher (VA-9)	Energy Efficiency Improvement Act of 2007 Sustainable Energy Institutional Infrastructure Act of 2007
HB 2337	Placed on the Union Calendar No. 186.	5/16/2007	Congressman Nick Rahall (WV-3)	To promote energy policy reforms and public accountability, alternative energy and efficiency, and carbon capture and climate change mitigation, and for other purposes.

Agriculture's Global Competitiveness and Profitability

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 3272	Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.	8/1/2007	Congressman Mark Kirk (IL-10)	United States-China Market Engagement and Export Promotion Act

SB 1919	Referred to the Committee on Finance.	8/1/2007	Senator Max Baucus (MT)	Trade Enforcement Act of 2007
HB 2419	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 339 under General Orders.	5/22/2007	Congressman Collin Peterson (MN-5)	Farm Bill Extension Act of 2007
HB 2992	Received in the Senate and referred to Committee on Small Business	7/11/2007	Congressman John Hall (NY-19)	SBA Trade Programs Act of 2007

Economic Opportunities in Rural Areas

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 3619	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	9/20/2007	Congresswoman Carolyn Kilpatrick (MI-13)	To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit to primary health service providers who establish practices in health professional shortages.
HB 3246	On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Failed 225 - 152 (Roll no. 867).	7/31/2007	Congressman James Oberstar (MN-8)	Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act of 2007
SB 2065	Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	9/18/2007	Senator Patty Murray (WA)	A bill to provide assistance to community health coalitions to increase access to and improve the quality of health care services.
SB 2043	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	9/12/2007	Senator Ken Salazar (CO)	A bill to prohibit the closure or relocation of any county office of the Farm Service Agency until at least 1 year after the enactment of an omnibus law to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs for fiscal years after fiscal year 2007.
SB 2022	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	9/6/2007	Senator Tim Johnson (SD)	To prohibit the closure or relocation of any county office of the USDA FSA until at least one year after the enactment of an Act to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs for fiscal years after 2007.

Environmental and Natural Resource Issues

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
SB 1976	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	8/2/2007	Senator Jon Tester (MT)	A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to include a provision on organic conversion in the environmental quality incentives program.

HR 3614	Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.	9/20/2007	Congressman Rob Bishop (UT-1)	To authorize Western States to make selections of public land within their borders in lieu of receiving 5 percent of the proceeds of the sale of public land lying within said States as provided by their respective enabling Acts.
SB 1949	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	8/2/2007	Senator Harry Reid (NV)	A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide loans to certain organizations in certain States to address habitats and ecosystems and to address and prevent invasive species.
SB 1962	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.	8/2/2007	Senator Jeff Sessions	A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to authorize a regional water enhancement program in the environmental quality incentives program.
HR 597	On agreeing to the resolution Agreed to by voice vote.	7/13/2007	Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-5)	Providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1495) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.
SB 1952	Referred to the Committee on Finance.	8/2/2007	Senator Patty Murray (WA)	A bill to provide a Federal tax exemption for forest conservation bonds, and for other purposes.
HB 1495	Cleared for White House.	3/13/2007	Congressman James Oberstar (MN-8)	Water Resources Development Act of 2007
HB 3288	Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness.	8/1/2007	Congressman Raul Grijalva (AZ-7)	To authorize appropriations for the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, and for other purposes.
HB 3623	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	9/20/2007	Congressman Patrick Murphy (PA-8)	To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the deduction for contributions of real property made for conservation purposes.
HB 50	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 322 under General Orders.	1/4/2007	Congressman Don Young (AK)	Multinational Species Conservation Funds Reauthorization Act of 2007
SJR 17	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.	8/3/2007	Senator Ted Stevens (AK)	A joint resolution directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean.

Other Legislation

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Bill Number	Status	Date Introduced	Sponsor	Bill Summary and Link
HB 2272	Became Public Law No: 110-69	5/10/2007	Congressman Bart Gordon (TN-6)	America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act

HB 3161	Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 331 under General Orders.	7/24/2007	Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (CT-3)	Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008
HRes 599	On agreeing to the resolution Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 224 - 194 (Roll no. 800).	8/1/2007	Congressman James McGovern (MA-3)	Providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3161) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.
HB 3264	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means	7/31/2007	Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (PA-13)	American Life Sciences Competitiveness Act of 2007
HB 1834	(Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. <u>110-311</u> , Part I.	3/29/2007	Congressman Jim Saxton (NJ-3)	National Ocean Exploration Program Act National Undersea Research Program Act of 2007
HRes 634	On motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.	9/5/2007	Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand (NY-20)	Encouraging participation in hunting and fishing, and supporting the goals and ideals of National Hunting and Fishing Day and the efforts of hunters and fishermen toward the scientific management of wildlife and conservation of the natural environment.