

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:**May 14, 2001**

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LAST WEEK

FY 2002 BUDGET RESOLUTION – The FY 2002 Budget Conference was completed and passed by both chambers. This resolution does not require Presidential approval. The mandatory agriculture conservation budget authority is increased to \$350 million for FY 2002 and a reserve of \$350 million each year for FY 2003-2011. The budget authority for conservation is increased by \$1.76 billion, an to be shared by many federal conservation programs. The resolution provides a reserve of \$66 billion for reauthorizing farm bill programs for FY 2003-2011, in addition to \$12.5 billion in additional budget authority for FY 2001 and FY 2002 to address low agriculture income concerns.

WATER QUALITY BRIEFING - Rep. Walter Jones (NC) held a briefing with NRCS and farmers on the impact of NRCS nutrient management policy on livestock operations in North Carolina on May 10, 2001. Tom Christensen, Director- Animal Husbandry and Clean Water Programs, responded to questions about NRCS role in CAFO/AFO rulemaking.

LEGISLATION OF NOTE

The following Bill of significance to NRCS and conservation have been introduced.

BILL	MEMBER	PURPOSE
H.R. 1689	Schaffer, CO	<p style="text-align: center;">Grassland Reserve Program</p> <p>To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to establish a grassland reserve program to assist owners in restoring and conserving grassland.</p>

THIS WEEK

ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS HEARING - The Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (Chairman Duncan, TN) will hold a hearing on management options for confined animal feeding operations. Federal agency witnesses are not scheduled to testify.

May 16

2:00 p.m.

2167 Rayburn

