

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:

October 22, 2001

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LAST WEEK:

INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING - On October 10, 2001 the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee (Chairman Duncan, TN) of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee held a hearing on infrastructure security. Witnesses from the Army Corps of Engineers, Justice Department and Environmental Protection Agency described measures needed to protect dams and other water structures that could be potentially targeted by terrorists.

LEGISLATION OF NOTE

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

BILL	MEMBER	PURPOSE
S. 1527	Enzi, WY	To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to extend and improve the environmental quality incentive program.
S. 1537	Bingaman, NM	To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a hydrogeologic mapping, modeling, and monitoring program for the High Plains Aquifer and to establish the High Plains Aquifer Coordination Council to facilitate groundwater conservation in the High Plains.
S. 1538	Bingaman, NM	To further continue economic viability in the communities on the High Plains by promoting sustainable groundwater management of the Ogallala Aquifer.
S. 1563	Cochran, MS	To establish a coordinated program of science-based counter measures to address the threats of agricultural bio-terrorism.
S. 1571	Lugar, IN	Comprehensive Farm Bill rewrite proposal .

SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS - Stephen F. Lynch, D-MA, a state legislator, won the 9th District seat left vacant by the death of Joe Moakley earlier this year. Jeff Miller, R-FL, won the 1st District seat left vacant by the September 6 retirement of Joe Scarborough.

