

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:**

**September 30, 2002**

NRCS, Office of Legislative Affairs  
Room 5121, South Agriculture Bldg.  
(202) 720-2771

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For additional information contact:

Douglas J. McKalip

Eric W. Carlson

Sharyn C. Alvarez

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**LAST WEEK**

**LEGISLATION OF NOTE**

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

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
H. R. 5428	Young, AK	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.
H. R. 5486	Moran, KS	To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the High Plains Aquifer States in conducting a hydrogeologic characterization, mapping, modeling and monitoring program for the High Plains Aquifer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

**AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE**

**HEARING** – The Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee (Chairman Goodlatte, VA) of the House Agriculture Committee held a hearing on the civil rights programs of the Agriculture Department on September 25, 2002. Lou Gallegos, Assistant Secretary for Administration testified regarding the status of civil rights litigation and outreach to minority farmer and ranchers. Members had many questions regarding the litigation, and outreach activities.

**CONTINUING RESOLUTION PASSED ON APPROPRIATIONS** – On September 26, the House passed, H. J. Res. 111, a resolution to continue funding the federal government until October 4, 2002. The vote was 370-1. The Senate then passed the same resolution by a voice vote.

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