

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:

September 11th, 2000

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LAST WEEK:

LEGISLATION OF NOTE – The NRCS Legislative Affairs Staff identifies and tracks legislation of particular interest to NRCS and conservation. This information is available on the NRCS Legislative Affairs web-site under the heading LEGISLATION OF NOTE. The address for the Legislative Affairs web-site is as follows:
<http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/LA/LAhome.html>

BILL	MEMBER	SUMMARY
S. 2948	Inhofe, OK	Establishes a program for wetland mitigation banking.
S. 2980	Daschle, SD	Permits certain wetland, buffers, and filterstrips into CRP.

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THIS WEEK:

**AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS
OVERSIGHT HEARING** - The Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee (Chairman Lugar, R-Ind.) will hold an oversight hearing on the Department of Agriculture Office of Civil Rights.

September 12 9:00 a.m. 328-A Russell Building

UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN CONSERVATION – The General Farm Commodities, Resource Conservation and Credit Subcommittee (Chairman Barrett, R-NE) of the House Agriculture Committee will hold a hearing on H.R. 4013, legislation that would reauthorize conservation programs in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. Tom Weber, Deputy Chief for Programs, will testify on the behalf of NRCS.

September 13 2:00 p.m. 1300 Longworth Building

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LOOKING AHEAD:

FARMLAND PROTECTION - The Senate Agriculture Subcommittee on Forestry, Conservation, and Rural Revitalization (Chairman Craig, R-ID) will hold a field hearing on farmland protection in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Tentative witnesses include NRCS Associate Chief, Danny Sells, and State Conservationist (PA), Janet Oertly. Other witnesses include representatives of local and state farmland protection programs.

September 18 10:00 a.m. Norristown, PA

INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORTS – The Department Operations Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee (Chairman Goodlatte, R-Va.) of the House Agriculture Committee will hold a hearing on two reports issued by the Agriculture Department Office of Inspector General, dealing with the Urban Resources Partnership and the Office of the Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

September 20 10:00 a.m. 1300 Longworth Building

AGRICULTURE RISK PROTECTION – The House Agriculture Committee (Chairman Combest, R-TX) will hold a hearing to review the implementation of the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 2000.

September 21 9:00 a.m. 1300 Longworth Building

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