September 13, 1999

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:

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LAST WEEK -

CONGRESS RETURNS TO CONTINUE WORK ON SPENDING BILLS -

Congress returned last week to continue it's work on FY 2000 appropriations. One aspect of this year's budget crunch is certain, Congress and the White House will not reach agreement by the October 1 start of the new fiscal year and at least one continuing resolution will be needed to keep the government running until talks are completed.

Rep. Dick Armey, Majority Leader (R-TX) commented that the initial stopgap legislation will include at least five spending measures. Another option that has not been ruled out is a longer-term stopgap bill that would keep the government running into next year. Delaying a final agreement until updated budget surplus estimates are available could give negotiators more money to work with.

Conference action on H.R. 1906, the House Agriculture Appropriations, will probably occur at the end of the month.

THIS WEEK

WATERSHED REHABILITATION - The Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee (Chairman Boehlert, R-NY) of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a hearing on the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Small Watershed Program. The hearing will focus on the Middle Deep Red Run Creek Watershed Project in Oklahoma and H.R. 728, a bill to amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cost share assistance of the rehabilitation of structural measures constructed as part of NRCS water resource projects.

Sept. 16

10:00am

2167 Rayburn Bldg.

FARM CRISIS - The House Agriculture Committee (Chairman Combest, R-TX) will hold a hearing on the farm financial crisis.

Sept. 14 10:00am 1300 Longworth Bldg.

ESTUARY HABITAT RESTORATION - The Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans Subcommittee (Chairman Saxton, R-N.J.) of House Resources Committee will hold a hearing on H.R. 1775, a bill to catalyze restoration of estuary habitat through financing of projects and enhanced coordination of federal and non-federal restoration programs.

Sept. 16

10:00am

1334 Longworth Bldg.

LOOKING AHEAD

FISCAL 2000 AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS - Conferees will meet on legislation making fiscal 2000 appropriations for programs of the Agriculture Department. The time, room number and date will be announced later.

ENERGY FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP - The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Chairman Murkowski, R-Alaska) will markup S. 25, a bill to provide coastal impact assistance to state and local governments, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978 and the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965.

date TBA time TBA 366 Dirksen Bldg.

DUCK STAMPS - The Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans Subcommittee (Chairman Saxton, R-N.J.) of House Resources Committee will hold a hearing on North America Wetlands Conservation Act Amendment and H.R. 2496, a bill to reauthorize the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994.

Sept. 23

10:00am

1334 Longworth Bldg.

RESOURCES FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP - The House Resources Committee (Chairman Young, R-Alaska) will meet to markup H.R. 701, a bill to provide Outer Continental Shelf Impact Assistance to state and local governments, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 and the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978. The committee will also markup H.R. 798, a bill to provide for the permanent protection of the resources of the United States in the year 2000 and beyond.

date TBA

time TBA

1324 Longworth Bldg.
