

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:    MAY 27, 1997**

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**LAST WEEK:**

**EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING BILL DELAYED** - Most House members went home late Thursday evening when it became apparent that the conferees were not going to be able to readily reach agreement on the emergency supplemental bill until after the Memorial recess. The House defeated a resolution to adjourn 67-278, and will remain in pro forma session but will not conduct further legislative business until June 3rd. When members return after the Memorial recess, they will still have to address potential amendments to the supplemental including a continuing resolution to avoid government shutdowns, and rights-of-way on public lands for the purpose of building roads. The conference version of the bill would then have to pass each chamber before it can be sent to the President for signature. The President has said he will veto the measure if it contains the continuing resolution in its present form.

**BALANCED BUDGET AGREEMENT** - The Senate finalized work on the balanced budget agreement on Friday. After defeating numerous attempts to make major changes in the agreement, the way is clear for the conference report to be prepared. Once the conference report is agreed to, the appropriations committees will begin their work allocating the discretionary funds for the FY98 appropriations.

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**THIS WEEK:**

**MEMORIAL DAY RECESS-**  
The House and Senate are in recess.

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**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING ON EQIP FINAL RULE-**  
NRCS staff will brief House and Senate staff on details of the Final Rule for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program next week. The Final Rule was published on May 22nd and contains the final operating parameters and procedures for the program. NRCS staff will present the rule and be available to answer questions by attendees.

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