

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:**

**September 8, 1997**

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**LAST WEEK:**

**CONGRESS RECONVENES** - Members of Congress returned to Washington, DC, after the August recess and spending a month in their home districts. The Senate went into session on Tuesday and the House on Wednesday. Both chambers will focus on the 13 appropriation bills that are targeted for passage before the new fiscal year begins on October 1.

**CONFEREES NAMED FOR AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS -**

Last week, both chambers named conferees on the Agriculture Appropriations Bill. They are:

Senate

Thad Cochran (R-MS)	Dale Bumpers (D-AR)
Ted Stevens (R-AK)	Robert Byrd (D-WV)
Arlen Specter (R-PA)	Tom Harkin (D-IA)
Kit Bond (R-MO)	Herb Kohl (D-WI)
Slade Gorton (R-WA)	Pat Leahy (D-VT)
Mitch McConnell (R-KY)	Daniel Inouye (D-HI)
Conrad Burns (R-MT)	

House

Joe Skeen (R-NM)	Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)
James T. Walsh (R-NY)	Vic Fazio (D-CA)
Jay Dickey (R-AK)	Jose Serrano (D-NY)
Jack Kingston (R-GA)	Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
George Nethercutt (R-WA)	David Obey (D-WI)
Henry Bonilla (R-TX)	
Tom Latham (R-IA)	
Bob Livingston (R-LA)	

**SENATE AMENDS AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR TOBACCO EDUCATION FOR MINORS -**

On Wednesday, the Senate passed an additional amendment to the FY98 Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amendment, sponsored by Senator Harkin (D-IA), increases the amount of funding dedicated to controlling tobacco sales to minors from \$5 million contained in the original bill, to the President's request of \$34 million. The additional funds are gained from a restriction on the Department's purchase of computer and information technology. Later in the day, the House, by a vote of 299-125 passed a motion in support of the provision.

**THIS WEEK:**

This week Congressional Staff will begin to reconcile differences in the House and Senate versions of the Ag. Appropriations bill in preparation for the Conference Committee action.

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**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS** - The House Resources Committee (Chairman Don Young, AK) will hold a hearing on H.R. 1842 sponsored by Helen Chenoweth R-ID. H.R. 1842 would prohibit the use of any appropriated funds from being used to carry out the American Heritage River Initiative.

Sept. 24      11:00 a.m.      1324 Longworth Bldg.

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