

Legislative work continues heavy pace in April

Agriculture

USDA Technical Advisory Committees

Congressman Nunes recommended the appointment of Joel Nelson (President, California Citrus Mutual) to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Committee (Agriculture Technical Advisory Committee) of the Department of Agriculture. Furthermore, he recommended the appointment of James Tillison (CEO, Alliance of Western Milk Producers) to the Animal and Animal Products Technical Advisory Committee of the Department of Agriculture.

Dairy

Congressman Nunes introduced H.R. 1659, which closes a loophole in federal law permitting a producer distributor in a federal milk marketing order to market products into a state milk



marketing order without participating in either pool. This loophole has the potential of costing more than a hundred million dollars to California dairies.

Armenian Issues

Armenian Genocide

Congressman Nunes joined hundreds of his colleagues in sending a letter to President Bush urging him to properly recognize the Armenian Genocide. He



Congressman Nunes signed a letter sent to Secretary Anthony Principi, Department of Veterans' Affairs, requesting the termination of contracts with IMERYS. IMERYS is a company based in France, and currently supplies marble headstones for the Department, including those placed at Arlington National Cemetery.

"France has actively undermined United States national interests and should not supply the headstones intended to honor the sacrifices of our troops."

specifically requested that the President correctly characterize the Armenian Genocide as genocide during his annual April 24th commemoration statement.

Congressman Nunes expressed his strong support for true recognition of the Armenian Genocide by co-sponsoring legislation that would commemorate the 15th anniversary of U.S. implementation of the Genocide Convention.

Banking

Congressman Nunes signed a letter with other Members of the Western Caucus asking the Chairman of the Financial Services Committee (Rep. Mike Oxley R-OH) to hold hearings on the Federal Home Loan

Bank System relationships with community banks and their move into securing mortgages instead of helping small business owners and family farm owners.

Education

Congressman Nunes expressed his support, with other Members of the Hispanic Conference, for the proposed changes in the school lunch program. The proposed changes will make sure that every child who is eligible for the program has access to it and that no one is left out.

Environment

Endanger Species Act
Rep. Nunes cosponsored H.R. 1662, the Sound Science for Endangered Spe-

cies Act Planning Act sponsored by Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR). This legislation would fix the way in which the ESA uses science and involves the public in its decision-making process. This legislation would improve public participation in the listing and recovery planning process; improve use of peer-reviewed science in making ESA decisions; greater role given to the states and local communities; greater weight given to social and economic impacts; improve processes to enable private landowners to have certainty and take actions to protect species on private lands; and greater financial and technical assistance to states and private citizens.

Resources

Healthy Forests Initiative

Rep. Nunes expressed his support for the President's Healthy Forests Initiative by becoming an original co-sponsor of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act which was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Scott McInnis (R-CO). Below is a summary of the bill.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction on Federal Lands

The Title's purpose is to create procedures that empower local land managers with the tools to expeditiously implement hazardous fuels reduction projects on federal forests and rangelands.

See Legislation next page