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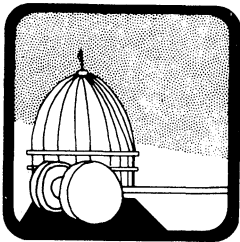
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Consumer Legislation

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Usually a bill cannot become a law until it has been approved in identical terms by both Houses of the Congress and signed by the President of the United States. In each Congressional session many bills are introduced. Some will go on from Committees, to Subcommittees, and to the President to become a law. Other bills will fail to pass either House or will be vetoed by the President. Some bills do not get out of committee, and therefore have no chance of becoming law during that Congress.

The Consumer Protection Act of 1977, HR 6805 and S 1262, failed to pass the House by a yea-nay vote (189-227), on February 8, 1978. Similar bills have been introduced in the last four Congresses.

What has happened to some of the consumer-related bills that have been introduced in the 95th Congress is indicated below—bill numbers, sponsors, dates introduced, description, and status.

Labeling

HR 42 Rosenthal 1/4/77

To amend the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act to require the labels on food and food products to disclose all of their ingredients, their nutritional content, open dating of perishable foods, accurate weight data, storage information, their manufacturers, packers, and distributors, and their unit prices; and to provide for uniform product grading and prohibit misleading brand names.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

1/4/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 2/8/77

HR 893 Flynt 1/4/77

To make more uniform with the general requirements of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act certain provisions relating to the labeling and notification of colored margarine and colored oleomargarine, and to provide for uniform standards and specifications for colored margarine and colored oleomargarine.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 1/4/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 2/8/77

HR 3290 Santini et al 2/8/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require the label on certain food products to disclose the total sugar content.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 2/8/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 2/16/77

S 1073 Hansen 3/22/77

To amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require that imported meat and meat food products made in whole or part of imported meat be labeled "imported" at all stages of distribution until delivery to the ultimate consumer.

Referred to Senate Committee on Agriculture. 3/22/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Agriculture Research. 3/25/77

S 1464 Thurmond 5/5/77

To amend section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic

Act by requiring that if an alcoholic beverage has more than 24 percent alcohol it must have a health warning on the bottle containing the beverage.

Referred to Senate Committee on Agriculture. 3/22/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Consumer Protection. 1/31/78

HR 10003 Panetta et al 11/3/77

A Bill to require that certain consumer products be labeled to specify the rate of water consumption of the consumer products, and for other purposes.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 11/3/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Finance. 11/4/77

HR 10358 Rogers & Carter 12/15/77

A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and strengthen the authority of the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under the Act with respect to the distribution and labeling of food and for other purposes.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 12/15/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 12/16/77

Food Safety

HR 329 Delaney 1/4/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ban the usage of diethylstilbestrol (DES) as a growth stimulant in any animal intended for use as food until evidence proves such drug is safe for human consumption.

Referred to House Committee on

Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 1/4/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 2/8/77

HR 1349, S 297 Taylor 1/4/77

To provide for the inspection of imported dairy products, to require that imported dairy products comply with certain minimum standards of sanitation; and to require that imported dairy and meat products be labeled imported.

Referred to House Committee on Agriculture. 1/4/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Dairy and Poultry. 1/31/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains. 1/31/77

HR 2521 Sebelius 1/26/77

To extend the coverage of the Poultry products Inspection Act to provide for the mandatory inspection of domesticated rabbits slaughtered for human food.

Delivered to President 10/28/77 Vetoed by President 11/9/77

HR 3556 Brodhead 1/16/77

To provide that any food which contains more than .02 parts per million of polybrominated biphenyl shall be deemed to be adulterated for purposes of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 2/16/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 2/17/77

HR 4977 Rudd & Devine 3/14/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the safety of food additives.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 3/14/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 3/15/77

HR 4994 Whitehurst 3/14/77

To give the Food and Drug Administration discretion in the control of food additives.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 3/14/77 Referred to Subcommittee

on Health and the Environment. 3/15/77

HR 5138 Krueger 3/16/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare with greater latitude in regulating food additives found to induce cancer in man or animal.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 3/16/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 3/17/77

HR 5197 Lloyd of Tenn 3/17/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise the standard for regulating food additives found to induce cancer in man or animal.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 3/17/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 3/18/77

HR 5156 Jones of Okla 3/16/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require appropriate tests before a food additive may be banned as inducing cancer in man or animal and to permit marketing of such an additive with appropriate warning label.

Referred to House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. 3/16/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. 3/17/77

HR 5140 Martin 3/16/77

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the evaluation of the risks and benefits of food additives and to permit the continued use of saccharin until an evaluation is completed.

Clean Bill HR 8518 forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee in lieu of HR 5140. 7/25/77 S 1750 passed House in lieu of HR 8518. 10/17/77

HR 4993 Vander Jagt 3/14/77

To direct the Food and Drug Administration to withhold its announced prohibition of the use

of saccharin in foods and beverages pending further study by the National Academy of Sciences. Clean Bill HR 8518 forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee in lieu of HR 4993. 7/25/77 S 1750 passed House in lieu of HR 8518 7/25/77

* **S 1750, HR 5156** Kennedy et al 6/23/77

To amend the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended, to conduct studies concerning toxic and carcinogenic substances in foods, to conduct studies concerning saccharin, its impurities and toxicity and the health benefits, if any, resulting from the use of nonnutritive sweeteners including saccharin; to ban the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare from taking action with regard to saccharin for eighteen months, and to add additional provisions to section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, as amended, concerning misbranded foods.

Signed by President. 11/23/77 Became Public Law No. 95-203.

Food for Older Americans

HR 801, S 275 Carney 1/4/77

To establish a food program for older Americans.

*Became a part of HR 7940. 6/23/77 HR 7940 became part of HR 7171. 6/29/77 S 275 passed in lieu of HR 7171. 7/28/77

HR 6668 Brademas 4/27/77

Amends the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 which amends section 707 of the Older American Act of 1965. This permits the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cash in lieu of donated foods for federally-funded nutrition programs for the elderly, in states that elect the option.

Signed by President. 7/11/77 Became Public Law No. 95-65.

Nutrition Information and Education for Children

HR 4753, S 720 Perkins 3/9/77

To authorize the Secretary of

Agriculture to carry out a program of nutrition information and education as part of food service programs for children conducted under the School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts.

Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor. 3/9/77
Referred to Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education. 3/18/77

HR 9892 Erlenborn 11/2/77

A bill to establish a unified program for the education of minor dependents of military and civilian personnel overseas and on certain military bases, to establish an Office of Dependent's Education in the Department of Defense to administer such program, and for other purposes. Stipulates that the overseas schools shall be eligible for assistance under the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966.

Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor. 11/2/77
Executive comment requested from DOD, HEW. 1/16/78

Aid to Farmers and Consumers

HR 4850, S 275 Sebelius 4/10/77

To provide for a free market and food protection by providing economic safeguards to American farmers when the movement of certain agricultural commodities in export markets are affected by Federal government interference.

*Became part of HR 7171. 5/16/77 S 275 passed in lieu of HR 7171. 7/28/77

HR 3457 Whitten 2/9/77

To protect the national security and economic well-being (including the Nation's present supplies and undeveloped sources of food and fiber) from damage due to arbitrary or unsound regulations, orders, or decisions issued by executive Departments, Agencies and Commissions.

Referred to House Committee on the Judiciary. 2/9/77
Referred to Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations. 2/25/77
Executive comment requested from Justice Dept.,

Admin. Conf. of U.S., and O.M.B. 3/2/77

HR 6198 Jones of Tenn 4/6/77

To provide a voluntary self-help program designed to assist producers of agricultural products against loss of cost of production when natural or uncontrollable conditions adversely affect the production. To assure consumers that producers will be able to continue to produce food and fiber.

Became part of HR 7111. 5/11/77

HR 6014 Beard of RI 4/5/77

To establish an emergency human nutrition food reserve which shall be available to help meet emergency food conditions in the United States or any foreign country which suffer a severe loss of its food supply as a result of a national disaster.

Referred to House Committee on Agriculture. 4/5/77
Referred to Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains. 4/7/77
Referred to House Committee on International Relations. 4/5/77

HR 6805 Brooks et al 5/2/77

To establish an agency for Consumer Protection in order to secure within the Federal Government effective protection and representation of the interests of consumers, and for other purposes.

Failed to pass in House. 2/8/78

S 1223 McGovern 4/4/77

To establish a National Commission on Food Production, Processing, Marketing and Pricing to study the food industry from the producer to the consumer.

Passed Senate amended, by voice vote. 1/20/78
Referred to House Committee on the Judiciary. 1/23/78

S 1678 Leahy By Request 6/10/77

A Bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended.

House insisted on its amendments and asks for conference. 10/31/77
Senate disagreed to House amendments, but agreed to request for conference. 11/2/77

Research and Technology

H RES 51 Murphy of NY 1/4/77

A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives concerning the need for immediate and substantial public investment in agricultural research and technology for the express purpose of increasing food production.

Referred to House Committee on Agriculture. 1/4/77
Referred to Subcommittee on Department Investigations Oversight, and Research. 1/31/77

HR 505 Lloyd of Tenn 1/4/77

To prevent famine and establish freedom from hunger by increasing world food production through the development of land-grant type universities in agriculturally developing nations. To cooperate in agricultural research to promote efficiency in the production of food.

Referred to House Committee on International Relations. 1/4/77
Referred to Subcommittee on International Developments. 2/2/77

S 106, HR 75 Huddleston et al 1/10/77

A bill to provide for furthering the conservation, protection, and enhancement of the Nation's land, water and related resources for sustained use, and for other purposes.

Signed by President. 11/18/77
Became Public Law No. 95-192.

S 275 Talmadge et al 1/18/77

Special measures to improve food and agricultural research. Establish within the Executive Branch the Federal Food and Agricultural Research Policy Council. To establish within the Department of Agriculture the Federal Food and Agricultural Research Operations and Advisory Commission, The Users Advisory Board for Food and Agricultural Research, The Office of Research and Competitive Grants. To establish an Animal Health Science Research Advisory Board to recommend priorities for the conduct of animal health research pro-

grams. To establish in the U.S. Treasury a "Department of Agriculture Contingency Research Fund."

Signed by President. 9/29/77
Became Public Law No. 95-113.

Food Stamp Program

HR 81, S 275 Wylie 1/4/77

To reform the Food Stamp Act by improving provisions relating to eligibility, simplifying administration and tightening accountability.

*Became part of HR 7940. 6/23/77 HR 7940 became part of HR 7171. 6/29/77 S 275 passed in lieu of HR 7171. 7/28/77

HR 622, S 567 Robinson 1/4/77

To amend the Food Stamp Act to exclude from coverage households which have members on strike.

Referred to House Committee on Agriculture. 1/4/77 Referred to Subcommittee on Domestic Mar-

keting Consumer Relations, and Nutrition. 1/31/77

HR 1359, S 275 Walker 1/4/77

To improve the level of nutrition of people who participate in the food stamp program.

*Became part of HR 7940. 6/23/77 HR 7940 became part of HR 7171. 6/29/77 S 275 passed in lieu of HR 7171. 7/28/77

Several new bills have been introduced in the second session of the 95th Congress, which started January 19, 1978. Farm prices have been a major concern in many of the bills introduced.

S 2392 introduced by Senator Allen, Alabama to provide emergency assistance to farmers by increasing the target prices for the 1977 and 1978 crops of upland cotton and corn was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

HR 10414 was introduced by Representative Andrews, North

Dakota to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide 100 percent of parity to farmers. The various parity bills introduced in this session of Congress have been referred to the agriculture committee in either the Senate or the House.

HR 10764 was introduced by Representative Hagedorn, Minnesota to direct the Secretary of Agriculture *not* to further limit, restrict, or prohibit the use of nitrates or nitrites as preservatives in meat products for a period of two years. Representative Smith, Iowa introduced HR 10690 to repeal the 1976 Official Standards for Grades of Carcass Beef. Both HR 10764 and HR 10690 have been referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

* S 275 became Public Law No. 95-113. When two bills are listed on the same line, the first bill is the one introduced by the sponsor.