



The National Organization of Portuguese-Americans
Legislative Alert
December 15, 2009

Important Legislation

December 2nd

Introduced By Mr. Berry (for himself and Mr. CHILDERS):

H.R. 4177. A bill to provide emergency disaster assistance to certain agricultural producers that suffered losses during 2009, to provide emergency disaster assistance to certain livestock producers that suffered losses during 2008 or 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Introduced by Mr. Pomeroy (for himself, Mr. HERGER, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa):

H.R. 4186. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend for 2 years the treatment of certain farming business machinery and equipment as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Congressional Remarks

Speech of Hon. George Radanovich of California in the House of Representatives
Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Mr. Radanovich. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Fred Machado upon being named the "2009 Agriculturist of the Year" by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Machado will be recognized at the annual Agricultural Awards luncheon on November 18, 2009 in Fresno, California.

In 1932, Mr. Fred Machado was born in the Azores region of Portugal . At the age of sixteen he migrated to the United States with his family. When he arrived in the U.S. he began working as a farm laborer doing jobs that included milking cows for two hundred and fifty dollars a month. He enjoyed the work and took to the dairy industry



quickly, but decided to join the United States Navy. In 1955, after leaving the Navy he had saved enough money to purchase a twenty-acre plot in Easton, just west of Fresno, California. During the 1950's, Mr. Machado established a dairy with fifty cows, the company grew, quickly reaching fifteen hundred heifers.

Over the years, Mr. Machado's land increased from twenty-acres to an eight hundred-acre farming operation that produces almonds, grapes, orchards and feed crops. Until this year the farm also included the dairy, however with unprecedented low prices for milk, the Machado family decided to retire from the dairy business.

Mr. Machado is a very active member of the community. He has served on the boards of the National Milk Producers Federation, Challenge Dairy, Danish Creamery and numerous community organizations. Mr. Machado has been active with the Fresno County Farm Bureau for over fifty years, serving in multiple leadership positions including serving as the Eastern Center Co-Chairman, and as president from 1972-1974.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Frank Machado upon being named the "2009 Agriculturist of the Year." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Machado many years of continued success.

Upcoming Events

Lisbon Treaty Impacts on U.S.-E.U. Relations

House Foreign Affairs Committee - Hearing

02:00 pm

12/15/2009

Europe Subcommittee hearing on "The Lisbon Treaty: Implications for Future Relations Between the European Union and the United States."

Witnesses

Panel I

The Honorable Philip H. Gordon

Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasian Affairs

U.S. Department of State

Panel II

Karen Donfried, Ph.D.

Executive Vice President

German Marshall Fund of the United States



Daniel Hamilton, Ph.D.
Richard von Weizsäcker Professor and Director of Center for Transatlantic Relations
The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies
Johns Hopkins University

Ms. Sally McNamara
Senior Policy Analyst, European Affairs
Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom
The Heritage Foundation

Location: 2172 Rayburn House Office Building
Contact: 202-225-5021 <http://www.foreignaffairs.house.gov>

Immigration

Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and Labor Secretary Hilda Solis - Discussion

12:00 pm
12/16/2009

Commerce Secretary Gary Locke and Labor Secretary Hilda Solis deliver remarks on "immigrants and their descendants' roles in creating and contributing to the development of the United States from its beginnings as a nation" and "their perspectives of today's immigration debate" at the Center for American Progress (CAP).

Participants: CAP President and CEO John Podesta
Location: CAP, 1333 H Street NW, 10th Floor, Washington, D.C.
Note: RSVP Required
Contact: 202-741-6246
Website: <http://www.americanprogress.org>

The National Council of La Raza - Conference call

03:00 pm
12/17/2009

The National Council of La Raza holds a conference call, beginning at 3 p.m., to discuss on immigration reform to "learn about the contents of the Gutierrez bill and other legislative developments, plans for action in 2010, and how you can be part of the movement for just and humane comprehensive immigration reform."

Contact: 202-785-1670 (Note: RSVP for call in information online: [click here.](#))

Past Events of Importance

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) - Session



06:00 pm
12/08/2009

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) holds a free information session to "provide legal permanent residents with information on the naturalization process, the naturalization test, and rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship."

Participants: Rebecca Carson, chief of the Office of Citizenship at USCIS; and Sarah Taylor, district director of USCIS

Location: Arlington County Board Room, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Room 307, Arlington, Va.

The National Immigration Law Center - Conference

08:30 am
12/08/2009

The National Immigration Law Center holds its 7th National Low-Income Immigrant Rights Conference, December 6-8.

Events begin at 8:30 a.m. Highlight:

8:30 a.m.: Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., delivers a keynote address

Noon: Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif.; Sonal Ambegaokar, health policy attorney at the National Immigration Law Center; Marielena Hincapie, executive director of the National Immigration Law Center; Jennifer Ng'andu, deputy director of health policy at the National Council of La Raza; Ali Noorani, executive director of the National Immigration Forum; and Frank Sharry, executive director at America's Voice, participate in a panel discussion on "Lessons Learned from Health Reform Debate and Implications for Immigration Reform"

Location: Doubletree Hotel, 300 Army Navy Drive, Crystal Ballroom, Arlington, Va.

Contact: Adela de la Torre, 213-400-7822, delatorre@nilc.org.

The NOPA Legislative Alert

As a part of NOPA's mission to empower Portuguese-Americans, this Legislative Alert is sent out every two weeks as pertinent developments occur in order to keep the community informed of legislative action at the national level. This objective, non-partisan report aims to educate those interested about action on Capitol Hill that may affect the Portuguese-American community at large.



The source for all Congressional legislation information on this report was the THOMAS system from The Library of Congress (<http://thomas.loc.gov/>). Links for each of the bills listed above direct readers to the THOMAS web page specific to the bill.

You can find a PDF file of this and other alerts at NOPA's [website](#). If you have any questions about this or other legislation, please contact Paulo Araujo, Director of Government Relations, at paraujo@nopa-us.org.