Senate agriculture leader proposes embargo relief

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Senator Herman E. Talmadge, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, announced Friday he is considering the introdution of a seven-point

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legislative package in the new Congress to help ease the impact of the Russian grain embargo on U.S. farmers.

Talmadge said he is considering legislative action because of his con-

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cern that steps taken by the Carter Administration are "insufficient to protect the American farmer from the adverse effect" of the President's suspension of grain and other agricultural trade with the Soviet Union.

The Talmadge legislation would include extension of price support loan and grain reserve coverage to 1979crop corn grown outside the feed grain program and authority to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a "set-aside" to reduce 1980 corn plantings.

His plan also includes a proposal to allow the sale of government-held corn stocks for gasohol produced by new facilities at current price support loan levels, rather than at 50 percent above the loan as the law now requires.

"This change in the law would be a great incentive in getting many new alcohol production facilities quickly built and producing much needed alternative energy supplies," he said.

Talmadge outlined his legislative package in detail in a letter to Agriculture

Secretary Bob Bergland in advance of Bergland's scheduled appearance before Talmadge's Agriculture Committee at a special meeting on the opening day of the new Congress next Tuesday.

Talmadge said he would decide whether to push for new farm legislation after Tuesday's session with Bergland.

The Georgia Senator commended the Administration for steps announced to bolster farm prices in the wake of the Russian grain cutoff. But he made it clear that these actions do not go far enough.

Specificially, the Talmadge package in-

Amendment of the 1977 farm bill to permit (a) price support loans on 1979-crop corn to producers who did ticipation by such producers in the farmer-owned reserve (about 80 percent of the corn acreage was planted outside the program in 1979);

Amendment of the 1977

farm bill to permit CCC stocks of corn to be sold at the current loan rate (\$2.10 per bushel) if used for making gasohol produced by new facilities (under existing law, the minimum resale price is now \$3.15 per bushel);

Amendment of the 1977 farm bill to permit the making of price support loans on 1979-crop soybeans to producers who did not comply with the normal crop acreage requirement. Under present regulations, 1979 soybean producers were required to reduce their normal plantings by the 10 percent feed grain set-aside in order to qualify for price support on soybeans;

Passage of the Administration bill introduced last year by Senator Talmadge authorizing a food

security reserve of wheat (the Administration is now using CCC authority to buy up excess wheat but will need the legislation to actually establish the reserve);

Amendment of the 1977 farm bill to increase from \$50,000 to \$100,000 the maximum loan CCC may make to producers for onfarm storage facilities;

A one-year extension of the economic emergency loan program to farmers who are damaged by economic stresses that was authorized in the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (the program authority expires May 15,

Amendment of the 1977 farm bill to permit the Secretary to proclaim a setaside for the 1980 crop of corn and other feed grains.

not participate in the 1979 program and (b) parhold convention

EPHRATA — The 20th Annual Pennsylvania Young Farmer's Association State Convention will be held at the Sheraton Inn, Gettysburg, PA., February 6 and 7, 1980.

This year's convention theme is "Farmer's-The Heartbeat of America".

Two tours have been added to this years convention. Mason-Dixon Farms owned by the Waybright family and members of the Gettysburg Young Farmers, will be hosts on one tour of 600 milk cows, 2200 acres of hay and crops and produces their own electric power from methane gas.

The second tour is the world famous Gettysburg Battlefield Tour. Mr. George Glenn will be your tour guide.

Karl Kettering of Radio station WBYO will be guest speaker for the opening Wednesday, banquet, February 6.

Educational workshops will be offered on Thursday afternoon, February 7. Ladies programs will be Thursday morning and afternoon.

Ag displays in the Golden Spur Room, Public speaking contests, Awards and door prizes will round out the Convention program.

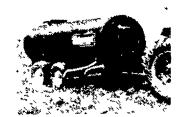
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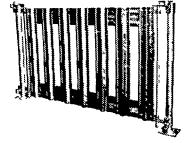
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