

Senator blocks move to limit price support loans

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senator Herman E. Talmadge, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, succeeded in removing a provision from the 1981 budget resolution that would have placed severe restrictions on future farm price support programs.

On Wednesday, May 8 the Senate unanimously approved an amendment offered by Talmadge to exempt farm price support loans and related programs

from a provision in the Senate version of the budget resolution that would make all government loan programs authorized by law dependent on separate and annual appropriations by Congress.

Farm price support loans are not now subject to the appropriations process but, when authorized by Congress, are made as necessary to producers by the Commodity Credit Corporation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. CCC crop loans have been

the government's principal mechanism for supporting farm prices since the 1930s.

Talmadge told the Senate the proposal of the Senate Budget Committee to make such crop loans subject to the Congressional appropriations process would "cause a fundamental shift in our agricultural price support programs and result in an administrative nightmare."

"If the appropriations committee appropriated less money than needed to carry out commodity price support

loans at the authorized levels, a number of questions would immediately arise: Who receives the loans and who does not?; Do wheat farmers receive price support loans while corn producers do not?; Would the secretary of agriculture be required to prorate the funds available for making loans?"

Talmadge said the loan provision recommended by the Senate Budget Committee is not related to the effort to balance the Federal budget

and that his amendment "would not increase the 1981 budget one dollar."

"Under the financing procedure dictated by the resolution, commodity price support loan programs would no longer be a guarantee against unreasonably low commodity prices, and the ability of Congress to respond quickly in an emergency would be eliminated," Talmadge said.

"This section ignores why certain of our agricultural programs are entitlement

programs — they are designed and funded in a manner that protects farmers against unpredictable events such as the weather, fluctuating economic conditions, or a grain embargo," he said.

The Talmadge amendment would exempt from the loan provisions of the budget resolution agricultural price support and related programs of the type in operation on January 1, 1980, which are funded through the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Delaware County announces Spring Fair winners

MEDIA — Delaware County 4-H held its annual Spring Fair recently at Granite Run Mall, here.

According to Nancy Harrold, 4-H assistant, featured at the fair were a club poster contest, a demonstration and public speaking competition, a talent show, a fashion show, a hockey exhibition, club displays and individual project competition.

The annual poster contest, in which the public does the judging, was won this year by the East Lansdowne Bonnie Bugs 4-H Club. The poster was made by 4-H member Kim Smith. The club will receive a free ice cream party as a prize. Champions and reserve champions in individual competitions were as follows: Indoor Gardening — living plants, Carolyn Smith, Lansdowne and Kelly Warder, Trainer; dry arrangements, Debbie Roman and Michelle Tate, Trainer; corn husk dolls, Anta Carr, East Lansdowne and Drew McNally, Havertown; peanut plants, Drew McNally and Marianne Repetto, Havertown; herbs, Nancy Parket

and Amy Parker, East Lansdowne; seedlings, Joan Redden, Holmes and Kathy Boeleau, East Lansdowne; basket arrangements, Maria Henwood, Havertown; and Impatiens, Amy McNally, Havertown and Norman Redden, Holmes.

Clothing— Start Stitching, Debbie and Terri Bonhage, Havertown; jiffy sewing, Dianne and Kristin Stinger, Springfield; gathered skirt, Lisa Rice and Mary Ellen Hissins, Havertown; pattern with a skirt, Mary Beth Kean and Michelle Repetto, Havertown; school outfit, Beverly Bonhage and Susan Lynch, Havertown; and Create With Fabric, Denise Cahill and Joanne Brady, Havertown.

Foods — Jams and Jellies, Carmen Jones and Joewana Freeman, Chester; Tricks for Treats, Elsie O'Donnell and Lisa D'Ambrosia, Springfield; and All Together With Foods, Mattie Adams and R. Gerald Jordan, Chester

Electricity — Electric Lamp, Michael Jerdon, Upper Darby

Public Speaking and Demonstration Competition — The following members

received cash awards — public speaking, Deidre DeLang, Upper Darby; Junior Demonstration, Valery Christiansen, Coleen Carr, and Amy and Nancy Parker, East Lansdowne; and Senior Demonstration, Jackie Brown and Dawn Getty, Ridley Township.



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