



### PENDING FEDERAL BILLS MAY AFFECT CLUBS

Washington watchers know that in the first 90 days of every session of Congress a great many pieces of legislation are introduced. The 93d Congress is no exception; over 6,500 bills had been brought before the House by early April and more than 1,500 had been introduced in the Senate.

What is unusual this year is that so many of these bills may have a direct or at least peripheral effect on golf clubs.

Many of them, of course, may not

pass this or any session of Congress. Other measures will be amended or altered, so that their impact on clubs will be greatly reduced, even eliminated. It is a good idea, however, to be aware of these potential laws. They could affect the conduct or operation of your club or golf course. Consider these important areas.

**MINIMUM WAGE:** The House General Labor Subcommittee is completing work on two bills: HR 2831 (Erlenborn, R-Ill.) and HR 4757 (Dent, D-Pa.). The former would increase wages to \$2.10 in two years,

the latter to \$2.20 in one year. Because of the makeup of the committee, it is likely that HR 4757 will be the vehicle for markup and although it is likely that many segments of HR 2831 will be introduced as amendments from the House floor, it was evident from the hearings on the bill that a spirit of compromise prevails and that there will be an increase in the minimum wage.

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ACT:** Over 20 bills have been introduced in the House and the Senate; most are designed to expedite inspections and relieve the burden the present act places on employers. Of these, S 1147 (Dominick, R-Colo.) is receiving the most publicity, although S 1249 (Curtis, R-Neb.) and HR 5996 (Steiger, R-Wis.) go even further in their special treatment for smaller business organizations, including private golf clubs.

**TOXIC SUBSTANCES:** There are a host of bills currently before Congress that are concerned with the environment, plus a whole new set of

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GRAU from page 15

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(1.52 pounds N) 7.6 pounds N

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powdered K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

(1 pound K)

5.0 pounds K

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hydrated lime

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OSHA regulations on the subject currently under study by various ad hoc committees of Government and industry. Some would require new testing procedures for all new chemicals and pesticides, others establish standards for the mixing and application of pesticides, and still others would outlaw the use of all residual pesticides and fungicides and insecticides.

ECONOMIC STABILIZATION: Clubs are, of course, still covered under Phase II of the Cost of Living Council regulations as far as their food and beverage operations are concerned. Some changes, however, could be brought about by any of several bills designed to amend the act. Of those bills that call for amending the act, HR 6168 (Patman, D-Tex.) is the most controversial. An already emotional issue was further aggravated when the Annunzio amendment to roll back prices to May 1, 1972, was made—and passed—only to be replaced by an roll back to January 10, 1973, the next day.

LAND USE POLICY: An area that originally appeared to have little impact on golf clubs now has begun to sprout both possibilities and dangers. S 296 (Jackson, D-Wash.) calls for Federal funding to states to develop plans for private land use. Favorable aspects of the bill are the prospects of securing a special tax classification for environmentally advantageous recreational land (golf courses). The dangers lie in the possibility of the seizure of golf courses by the state through eminent domain.

METRIC SYSTEM: Another area that seemingly had little impact on the golf course, until one considers the problems of converting the distances on thousands of golf courses from yards to meters, cup cutters from inches to centimeters, steaks and clubheads from ounces to grams, to say nothing of the measurements of liquids, alcoholic and otherwise by the bottle and by the glass.

These are only six of the 20-odd pieces of legislation that are likely to have at least some impact on golf clubs during the current session of Congress. Have you checked on your state legislature recently? □

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