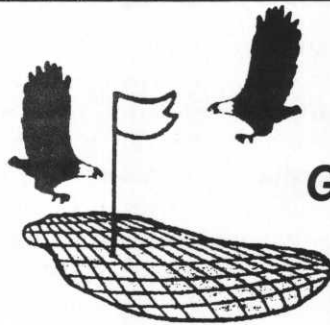


Legislation to Preserve Caddie Programs Introduced in Congress

Washington, D.C. — The National Club Association (NCA) announced that Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN), chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, has introduced legislation, H.R. 2321, that would preserve independent contractor status for caddies. Burton, a former golf caddie himself, has worked with NCA to develop language for the bill. NCA President Hugh J. Jones, Jr., praised Burton's steadfast interest in this issue saying, "His assistance has been invaluable and has greatly advanced the debate on this issue."

"Preserving independent contractor status for caddies has been a top legislative priority for NCA," according to Elizabeth Kirby Hart, NCA vice president for legal and government relations. "For more than 30 years, the Internal Revenue Service has aggressively attempted to reclassify independent contractors as employees. This is a critical issue for caddies, who have a long tradition of independent contractor status. There are a number of student scholarships that exist solely because of caddie programs. The combined financial contributions made to these programs represent millions of dollars each year."

NCA has worked closely with a number of members of Congress to advance this issue and formed the Coalition to Preserve Caddie Programs in 1996. Composed of over 50 state and regional golf associations and caddie scholarship programs, the coalition has been instrumental in providing critical grass roots support on this issue. Said Hart, "At long last, Congress is recognizing the value of caddie programs."



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