

Introduced Bill To Ban Limits on SCS

3-31-66

Congressman Bert Bandstra (Dem., Iowa) announced today that he has introduced legislation to lift Budget Bureau limitations on U. S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS) watershed planning authorizations for the 1966 fiscal year.

Bandstra, from Iowa's Fourth Congressional District, pointed out that the Budget Bureau has restricted SCS to giving planning authorization to no more than 100 watershed projects during the fiscal year ending June 30.

"According to its latest county SCS thus far has made 90 watershed planning authorizations for the current fiscal year," he said, adding that to date SCS has received 47 requests for planning assistance.

AMONG THE pending requests is an application for planning authorization for the

Carter Creek Watershed covering 24,480 acres in Davis and Appanoose Counties. All but 800 acres in the watershed are located in Davis County.

"The Budget Bureau has no authority whatever from Congress to impose project limitations on the SCS watershed planning program," Bandstra said.

"Nevertheless, it appears that the limitations will remain in effect unless some action is taken by Congress," he added, explaining why he introduced the legislation.

BANDSTRA SAID his bill states that it is the intent of Congress that \$5.7 million appropriated for watershed planning during fiscal year 1966 shall be expended as needed.

The bill also declares that no limitation shall be imposed on the number of watershed plan-

ning authorizations during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966.

"I have been in touch with other Congressmen on this problem, and I am hopeful that a number of identical bills will be introduced," he added.

Bandstra said SCS has indicated it could make as many as 120 watershed planning authorizations for fiscal year 1966, if the Budget Bureau limitations are removed.

"THUS SCS could make a possible 30 planning authorizations between now and June 30, as compared with only 10 if the Budget Bureau limitations remain in effect," he explained.

Tentative plans call for the construction of water detention centers, grade stabilization structures, channel improvement and other work on Carter Creek, which heads at Moulton and leaves Davis County southwest of Stiles.