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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6 February 1976

FROM: Kika de la Garza

WASHINGTON D C -- Rep Kika de la Garza has joined a number of other members of the House Agriculture Committee in introducing legislation designed to strengthen agricultural research activities.

Co-sponsors of the bill included Committee Chairman Thomas S Foley and Rep William C Wampler, ranking minority member of the panel.

"The purpose of the bill is to expand agricultural research with a view to increasing the nation's food and fiber production and improving the nutritional quality of food," Congressman de la Garza said. "The measure upgrades research in the Department of Agriculture by providing for the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Research."

The bill also establishes a 15-member National Agricultural Research Policy Committee. This group's membership would represent federal, state and private research institutions, government agencies involved with agriculture and farm organizations. It would review programs and goals of farm research agencies and develop national policies in the field.

Congressman de la Garza said public hearings on the legislation have been scheduled by the full Agriculture Committee for Feb 17-18.

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