

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

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

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Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) predicted today that refusal of the Administration to suspend operation of the controversial "Anfuso Amendment" next year will boomerang.

"The original purpose of the 1958 amendment (named after former Congressman Victor Anfuso, Democrat of New York) was to prevent transfer of acreage history from commercial wheat states to 15-acre producers in Eastern states who consistently overplanted their allotments even though marketing quotas were in effect.

"The farm program enacted last year, however, repealed the existing 15-acre exemption and replaced it with one designated the 'small farm exemption.'

"Under this 'small farm exemption' the base for small farms is the larger of:

- (a) 15 acres, or
- (b) the average acreage planted to wheat in a three year period--1959, 1960 and 1961.

This means small, 15-acre wheat producers have a base for their farms completely independent of formulas which are used for calculating the wheat base of larger farms. Therefore, if a small, 15-acre farmer exceeds his 1964 allotment, he will not lose history because his base is fixed on the three year--'59, '60, '61-- period.

"On the other hand, commercial producers (those with allotments of more than 15 acres) will be subject to the 'Anfuso Amendment' though marketing quotas are not in effect. If they exceed their allotments, assuming there is a program, their future allotments will be reduced by 6 to 8 percent per year unless some special exception is made. This is a classic example of how government attempts to help farmers actually harm them," Dole stated.

Congressman Dole deplored action taken by the Wheat Subcommittee, Wednesday, Sept. 11, where--by a straight party-line vote (8 to 4)--Democrats on the Subcommittee refused to consider suspension of the "Anfuso Amendment" for the 1964 wheat crop. Since farmers who overplant (overharvest), will not receive price supports, and their wheat will not be eligible for loan, Dole indicated this action deprived the farmer of overplanting and overharvesting as much as one inch without possible loss of history, even though his 1964 allotment has been reduced 10 percent already.

Department witnesses, including Dr. John Schnittker, Staff Economist; Edwin Jaenke, Associate Administrator ASCS; and Claude Coffman, Office of the General Counsel, presented the Department's objections to "suspension" of the "Anfuso Amendment" on the basis it would result in overproduction; but nonetheless, Dole said, "there is no justification for the action in principle. The action of the Subcommittee, and statements of Department witnesses, indicate that Secretary Freeman and Administration leaders either intend to keep their promise of \$1.00 wheat next year, or it is evidence--coupled with Freeman's jaunt around the country--that the Administration will support wheat legislation early next year.

"The USDA attitude now is to do nothing which might encourage overplanting--keep the farmer in doubt while political planners sound out the countryside. Even the Democrats admit this privately," Dole concluded.