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

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WASHINGTON, D. C. MARCH 23, 1967

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOLE INTRODUCES REA BILL

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) introduced a compromise REA supplemental financing bill late Wednesday evening. The bill, H. R. 7698, is similar, in many respects, to H. R. 1400.

In introducing the bill, Congressman Dole stated he felt chances for approval for a "good" supplemental financing bill were improving. "However," Dole stated, "it appears unlikely that H. R. 1400, the so-called 'Poage bill', or the 'insured loan proposal', H. R. 7390, first introduced by Congressman McMillan, will be acceptable to a majority of the members of the Committee on Agriculture.

"The proposal I introduced eliminates many of the objections raised by investor-owned utilities to a supplemental financing system structured through a bank, but it preserves the proper and historical role of Rural Electric Cooperatives."

Dole indicated that he has requested representatives of both the rural electrics and investor-owned utilities to comment on his proposal at the earliest possible time. "I am also hopeful that Congressman Poage, Chairman of the Agriculture Committee, and Congressman Belcher, ranking Republican, will agree to hear testimony on H. R. 7698 following Easter Recess."

The attached memorandum explains the basic differences between the Dole proposal, H. R. 7698, and H. R. 1400, the Poage proposal.

COPIES OF H. R. 7698 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION BY FRIDAY,
MARCH 25. ANYONE DESIRING A COPY SHOULD CONTACT THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE, ROOM 1301, LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, TELEPHONE
225-2171.