1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING AREA CODE 202 225-2715

> COMMITTEES: AGRICULTURE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE: 101 FEDERAL BUILDING GREAT BEND, KANSAS 67530 AREA CODE 316 SW 3-5423

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

COUNTIES: HODGEMAN CHEYENNE JEWELL KIOWA CLOUD DECATUR EDWARDS LANE LOGAN ELLIS ELLSWORTH MEADE FINNEY FORD NESS GRAHAM GRANT GRAY HAMILTON HASKELL PRATT

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STEV

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 4, 1967 -- The House of Representatives today unanimously passed a bill sponsored by Rep. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to make advance payments of up to 50 per cent of the value of wheat certificates.

The Dole bill provides advance payments made at sign-up time, with the farmer receiving the balance after harvest.

The bill now goes to the Senate. Dole said he has contacted Senator Frank Carlson (R-Kans.) who will urge favorable Senate action before Congress adjourns.

Congressman Dole said, "It is unfortunate that this proposal, introduced in March, has been delayed. delay stems from the fact the bill was opposed by the Administration, particularly Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman and Under Secretary of Agriculture John Schnittker."

add l Dole

"In my opinion," Dole said, "the wheat program should be designed to benefit the wheat producer and give him the maximum number of options."

Under the bill, Dole added, "The farmer will decide whether the payment is needed, not the Department of Agriculture."

Dole said there will be no additional cost to the Department if the bill is enacted.

"The bill would benefit the wheat producer by making money available at an earlier date and in many instances, would save the farmer from borrowing funds."

Congressman Dole, who had been in Kansas over the weekend, returned to Washington late yesterday to be present for consideration of the bill. He returns to Kansas late today to speak at the 18th annual meeting of the Hard Winter Wheat Quality Advisory Council in Kansas City, Kans.