

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE  
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510  
(202) 225-5521

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WASHINGTON, D.C., July 23 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today introduced a joint resolution requesting President Nixon to proclaim annually a "Day of Bread" during a "Harvest Festival" observance in late October.

The resolution, Dole said, would establish Oct. 28 as the 1969 "Day of Bread" and the last week of October as "Harvest Festival" in the U.S. The bill, he added, "calls on Americans to join similar observances in many foreign countries honoring wheat and its products -- perhaps man's oldest crop and cultivated food."

Representing the leading wheat-producing state in the nation, Dole, in remarks in the Senate, said, "Such an occasion in the U.S. would lend support and encouragement to our entire domestic wheat industry which comprises the most widespread agricultural occupation in the U.S."

In Kansas, Dole pointed out wheat farmers alone add over \$450 million a year to the state's economy. Total U.S. wheat consumption is about 520 million bushels a year. Last year about 761 million bushels were exported.

"It is within the international perspective, however, that the total significance of wheat and its products becomes more apparent," Dole said.

"Wheat, the world's largest crop, provides more nourishment for more peoples throughout the world than any other food, serving as a staple in 43 countries with almost a billion people," he added. "Wheat and specifically, bread, has become especially important in the growing worldwide concern with assuring adequate and nutritious diets for all men, women and children at home and abroad."

In his remarks, Dole noted a "Day of Bread" and a "Harvest Festival" are annual observances in West Germany, Austria/ and England and are being planned in Central and South America, the Orient, Sweden and Switzerland.

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Cosponsors of the bill include Senators Fred Harris (D-Okla.), Roman Hruska (R-Neb.), Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.), George McGovern (D-S.D.), Gaylord Nelson (D-Wisc.), Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), Robert Packwood (R-Ore.), James Pearson (R-Kans.), Jennings Randolph (D-W. Va.), Theodore Stevens (R-Alaska) and Milton Young (R-N.D.).

The text of the resolution is:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled--as a token of Man's gratitude for the bounty of Nature and annual harvest of farm and field, and in recognition of bread as a symbol of all foods--that Tuesday, the twenty eighth day of October, 1969, be designated as a 'Day of Bread' as a part of international observances, and that the last week of October within which it falls be designated as a period of 'Harvest Festival,' and in succeeding years the first Tuesday following the first Sunday of October each year be designated as a 'Day of Bread,' and the week itself a period of 'Harvest Festival'; and the President is requested to issue annually a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to join with those of other Nations to observe this 'Day of Bread' and 'Harvest Festival' with appropriate ceremonies and activities."

→ Also: Senators Curtis, Tower, Percy, Thurmond, Cooper, Allott, Hansen, Dominick Jordan (Idaho), Yarborough