



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Speaking in support of the Farm Bill today Senator Bob Dole urged his colleagues to take prompt action on the bill and provide winter wheat farmer the planning time afforded farmers producing other crops.

Dole emphasized that the main thrust of the bill is to provide a 5-year extension for: the set-aside concept for wheat, feed grains, and cotton; the dairy program; the wool program; and the food for peace program.

Summarizing his reasons for support of the Farm Bill, Dole said most nations are making plans to expand their livestock production in an effort to improve diets. Expansion of livestock production means an increase in demand for soybeans and feed grains, for which no other nation than the U.S. has the proven ability to provide these commodities. This bill provides incentives to the farmers, to the grain trade, and to the processor to supply this increasing demand at new higher world prices.

Dole also added that as long as the farmer is dependent on and has no control over the prices paid in the marketplace, he needs the assurance this bill (through the target price) provides to protect him against disaster. The bill provides that the government will share the risk he is taking with such a large investment.

"Most farmers approve of the set-aside program and the options it gives them to plant which ever crop they determine will give them the best income -- and passage of this legislation will assure them the flexibility they are entitled to," Dole commented.