



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

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DOLE CALLS FOR PRICE POLICY CHANGES

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Some short-sighted Cost of Living Council regulations are aggravating Kansas' fuel problems, according to Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kans.). Dole said his conclusions were supported by a report he had received on the results of a Friday meeting which had been held in Topeka at his request. Mr. James Gill of the U.S. Office of Oil and Gas attended the meeting at Dole's urging to obtain first-hand information on the fuel situation in Kansas. Gill reported to Dole on Saturday morning.

Dole said that "The shortages affecting Kansas are in part a result of unrealistic pricing restrictions imposed by the Cost of Living Council. By prohibiting distributors to pass through the cost of higher priced imported petroleum products, the Council is depressing supplies. They seem to be holding the price down effectively, but they are also holding down available supplies. I don't think the consumer wants to pay less if that also means he is definitely going to have to get by with less."

Dole has also been critical of Phase IV plans to impose a crude oil price roll back. Dole sees the roll back which is presently planned to take effect on August 12th, as another obstacle to solving the problem of fuel supply for Kansas and the Midwest. "A rollback will make it difficult if not impossible



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for Kansas' independent producers to continue their efforts to locate and bring in additional supplies of crude."

Responding to a report that the fuel crisis is easing, Dole said, "Kansas has just made it through a record harvest. There was enough fuel to meet the needs, but it took some extra effort to get it. Kansans need some assurance that the long-term supply situation is going to be more predictable. And one way to help bring that about is for the Cost of Living Council to avoid counter-productive price restrictions."

Dole said he planned to remain in regular contact with **SEN** John Dunlop, Director of the Cost of Living Council, John Love, Director of the Energy Policy Office, and Presidential Counsellor Melvin Laird on the matter in an effort to bring about reconsideration of the Phase IV control actions which will affect Kansas fuel supplies.