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DOLE URGES NIXON TO LIFT CONTROLS ON FERTILIZER

In response to literally hundreds of inquiries at the Hutchinson State Fair on Saturday and Sunday, Senator Bob Dole has sent a letter to President Nixon urging the lifting of price controls on fertilizer. "Fertilizer shortages are severely limiting the ability of Kansas farmers to respond to consumer and Department of Agriculture calls for all-out production," Dole stated. "In order for farmers to expand production to meet greater domestic and foreign demand for U.S. grain, they must have fertilizer. Greater supplies of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers for this fall's wheat planting can best be obtained by cooperation among fertilizer producers, distributors, and farmers. This cooperation can be achieved if the Cost of Living Council will allow fertilizer manufacturers to modify their price structure.

"Present Cost of Living Council regulations prohibit any increases in fertilizer prices by manufacturers and those supplies currently available are being exported to foreign countries where the manufacturers can receive nearly twice what the Phase IV rules will allow them to sell their product for in this country," Senator Dole explained. "Lifting the price controls would allow American farmers to bid evenly against foreign buyers."