

NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- JANUARY 19, 1974

DOLE WIRES BUTZ ON REORGANIZATION PLAN

WICHITA, KS.--Senator Bob Dole today urged Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz to carefully oversee the implementation of the reorganization plan which will lead to the consolidation and streamlining of local, county-based agricultural service programs.

Dole's Saturday telegram to Butz said, "Much concern found among Kansas farmers about impending reorganization and consolidation of Agricultural service structure, involving effort to streamline services through ASCS, FHA, FCIC and SCS. Urge careful oversight of implementation of reorganization plan in states to ensure farmers not forced to travel extraordinary distance to get needed service. Such a result would be counterproductive and defeat purpose of reorganization. Comments and imput from farmers should be sought before any such plan finally implemented."

The Agricultural Service Center concept being implemented under the reorganization plan will put the offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Farmers Home Administration and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation all under one roof to provide 'one-step' service for farmers. A State plan for implementation of the consolidation will be drawn up by the Kansas Directors of the four programs and must be submitted by June 3, 1974. Dole said he was hopeful that the plan could be devised without requiring that any county in Kansas be left without at least one local office. "The last thing farmers need", Dole said, "is the prospect of having to drive long distances just to get the services they require, and which they have the right to expect."