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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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PROPANE REGULATIONS TO CHANGE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole said today he has learned from the Federal Energy Office that a change in the propane pricing regulations will be published Monday.

Dole who has met twice this week with Federal Energy Administrator William Simon about the skyrocketing price of propane, stressed that the expected rule change will not constitute a price roll-back. "The regulation change," Dole said, "will put a stop to the outrageous price spiral which has been pushing propane prices through the roof in recent months. Under the new regulation, propane prices can be increased only if, and only as much as, the actual cost of producing propane may rise," Dole explained.

"One company,for example, added 5 cents a gallon to its price this week," Dole added. "In effect, under this new regulation, additional increases like that will be prohibited."

Dole has been working closely with Simon and members of his staff this week to work out a method of reducing the propane prices being charged Kansans. "We were hoping that relief could be worked out without the necessity of introducing roll-back legislation. However, it now appears that this may be the only workable method and, as I said I would when I was in Kansas earlier this month, I will introduce a bill, on Monday, requiring a roll-back."

Dole said his bill would require the President to roll-back prices to January / 1973 levels and then permit an actual cost increase pass through up to current levels.