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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1974

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DOLE ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF FERTILIZER RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The Senate today passed a resolution, co-sponsored by Senator Bob Dole, that is intended to increase the supply of fertilizer.

"The fertilizer supply in Kansas is getting tighter every day and the situation may get even worse in the coming weeks," the Senator stated. "Hopefully, this Resolution will facilitate keeping production at the highest possible level."

The Resolution expressed the sense of the Senate that all agencies with any responsibility for establishing the priority for allocation of material and facilities utilized in the production or distribution of fertilizer give the highest priority possible to the fertilizer industry. The fertilizer industry in turn is urged to do its utmost in making fertilizer supplies available to farmers in a timely and equitable manner and at reasonable price levels.

The Federal Power Commission and appropriate state agencies are encouraged to do everything within their power to establish a high priority for the allocation of natural gas for the production of nitrogen fertilizers. This provision also relates to natural gas sold under interruptible contracts.

The Federal Energy Office is urged to include all the fuels required by the fertilizer industry in the highest priority category in order that the fertilizer producers and distributors may continue a high level of production, distribution and application of fertilizer supplies.

The Cost of Living Council and Department of Agriculture are encouraged to continue monitoring and reporting the availability of fertilizer supplies, wholesale and retail prices and the level of export shipments. The Cost of Living Council in particular is asked to establish a program to investigate through the field offices of the Internal Revenue Service, any reports of fertilizer price gouging by either wholesale or retail price levels. The COLC is to monitor and report any changes on manufacturers marketing operations or the distribution and supply system for fertilizer.

An amendment to the Resolution was added to accomplish the same purposes on dicalium phosphate which is used as a feed component for livestock.