

NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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DOLE OPPOSES LEGISLATION THAT WOULD DEPRESS GRAIN PRICES

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Calling it a "subsidization" of the United States' competitors,
Senator Bob Dole today opposed grain reserve legislation being considered by the Senate
Subcommittee on Agricultural Production, Marketing and Stabilization of Prices. In
hearings this morning Dole said, "Any grain reserve created through this legislation
will serve as a 'lid,' a ceiling, and a depressant on grain prices."

Dole said the legislation is viewed by Kansas farmers as a "step leading to immediate export control and the resultant two-price systems, i.e., a lower price to U.S. wheat growers and a higher world price available for the Canadian, Australian and Argentine growers."

The proposed legislation sets up an elaborate system of determining "critical commodities," which in turn triggers an export licensing system and minimal limits at which reserves could be sold into the domestic market.

Disputing the statement that the legislation would serve as a floor on prices, Dole said it would instead act as a lid on prices farmers could expect to receive. "It only serves to 'protect' the farmer from improved market prices," Dole added.

"I maintain that proper administration of the target prices and set-aside production controls now in existance will give our farmers the financial incentives they need to provide all the reserves necessary to assure all our citizens and the people of the world adequate food supplies."