



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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TO THE EDITOR: Recently, my opponent's campaign organization ran an advertisement in many Kansas weeklies which contained much false information, and I thought you might be interested in seeing how I am replying to inquiries about this ad. The following is the text of my response:

"Thanks for contacting me about my vote on the Agriculture Appropriation Bill.

"My vote was against inflation and not against farmers. Federal spending increases voted by Congress have been one of the major factors responsible for inflation. We in Congress must accept our responsibility in holding down Federal spending. My action on the Agriculture Appropriation Bill was an acceptance of that responsibility.

"This vote was the initial step in the trend leading most recently to a \$5.5 billion cut in the Defense budget. In the six major appropriation bills passed by the Senate since the Agriculture Appropriation Bill, over \$6.5 billion have been cut from the budget request. I have helped lead the efforts in the Senate to reduce the level of Federal spending in all the appropriation bills.

"My effort against inflation is vitally important to farmers. Inflation is probably the greatest problem facing farmers. Prices for fertilizer, equipment, fuel, baling wire and other essential materials have skyrocketed. My liberal opponent has spoken of cutting Federal spending while running false ads saying "Dole against farmers" and at the very same time, he was voting for \$800 million for mass transit subsidies to keep subway fares at 35 cents in New York and Boston.

"In my view, the Agriculture Appropriation Bill can be reduced without hurting programs for farmers in any way. The \$13 billion appropriation is nearly \$3 billion more than the corresponding bill in 1974, and over \$5 billion of the bill, or nearly one-half of the entire appropriation, is for food stamp and other social programs, including food stamps for strikers which my opponent strongly supports. I might add, all these programs are charged to the farmers in the eyes of the public. I voted for a \$500 million cut in the bill when it was debated before the Senate on July 22. Unfortunately, this effort failed, but since the veto, Congress is now working on reducing the bill by the amount some of us suggested on July 22.

"Thanks again for expressing your concern to me. Please do not hesitate to let me know whenever I may be of assistance."

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