



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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DOLE PROPOSES SECOND GRAIN INSPECTION COMPROMISE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole said today that he has been working with Senator Dick Clark of Iowa to modify his original June 28 proposal in order to bring about passage of a good grain inspection bill this year.

Senator Dole said that when members of the Joint Conference Committee on H.R. 12572 (the Grain Inspection bill) meet Tuesday there is a good chance that agreement can be reached.

The Dole-Clark proposal has been studied by the House conferees and their recommendations have been included in the proposal. The proposal differs from Dole's original proposal in two areas:

--Inspection at major inland terminals (those areas where over 50 million bushels of grain are inspected annually) will be made by the Federal Grain Inspection Service or to designate State or private agencies that meet the new, more strict criteria outlined in the bill. If these agencies should go out of business or be suspended, the Federal Inspection Service would take over the inspection, except that in the case of a private agency ceasing operations, a qualified State agency could be designated.

--His conflict of interest proposal would have allowed Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, and other comparable organizations to operate private inspection agencies as long as no one grain firm or individual in the grain business owned no more than 1% interest in the agency. The new compromise provides that individuals or firms engaged in grain business can own no more than 10% interest in such an agency.

Dole said, "I am hopeful that we will be able to reach agreement on this proposal when we meet next Tuesday, and I feel optimistic that most conferees can now accept it. It represents sensible compromise on both sides. It does not create a new bureaucracy; it allows present creditable inspection systems, whether State or privately operated, to continue operations with assurance that private agencies cannot be owned or controlled by the firms that they inspect. Most of all, provisions of the bill increase the supervision of all grain inspection and weighing, and require better training and qualification of grain inspectors. It is a good bill that will restore proper integrity to the grain inspection system, and prevent any recurrence of abuses and will assure our foreign customers the delivery of high quality U.S. grain."