



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE ADDS FULL PARITY FOR FARMERS TO PROPOSED HUMPHREY-HAWKINS BILL

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today added "full parity income for farmers" to the goals for a comprehensive national agricultural policy, as contained in the Senate version of the proposed Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978, the Humphrey-Hawkins bill.

Dole said he had discussed the need for a "full parity" goal with Republican senatorial candidate Nancy Landon Kassebaum.

"Nancy and I were concerned that there was nothing in the Humphrey-Hawkins bill that set a goal to bring agriculture up to par with the rest of the economy," Dole said. "There were goals for unemployment, goals for inflation, goals for gross national product, but there were no goals for adequate farm income.

"Nancy and I and other farm state senators are pleased that when the Humphrey-Hawkins bill is passed later this week, 'full parity for farmers' will be firmly established as a national economic objective."

Dole's addition to the bill states that the agricultural policy should include a goal to assure, "Farm and ranch income at full parity levels that will improve opportunities for farm families, encourage production, provide for essential capital investment in farming, and provide for farm product prices at not less than full parity in the marketplace."

Dole said that the addition means that, "When the president sets his policies, he will have to take into consideration reaching the goal of full parity income for farmers and full parity for farm product prices in the marketplace, at the same time that we reach the goal of 3 percent inflation and 3 percent unemployment.

"The policy decisions made by the president and Congress will have to provide for improved farm income, reaching full parity in the marketplace."