

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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## CARTER SUPPORTS 100% FARM PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C.....Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan) said today President Carter is supporting a 100% farm program. "The Carter farm program has been slowly developing during the past three years but has now come into full view for everyone to see," Dole stated.

"The Carter farm program is composed of: 20% inflation, 20% interest, 20% decrease in farm prices, 20% increase in farm costs and 20% of the farmers going into bankruptcy."

Sen. Dole, a senior member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, said, "The 100% Carter farm program spells total disaster for the American farmer, for the small towns and small businessmen in rural America and for the economy as a whole."

"Farmers in Kansas and other states are angry, frustrated, and totally disillusioned with the Carter-Bergland farm program. They had faith in Carter because he said he was a farmer, knew about parity and understood farm programs. Farmers feel they have been betrayed by the President," Sen. Dole said.

"The crisis on the farm is for real. It is time President Carter and Sec. Bergland faced the realities of the situation and took action. Howard Hjort, chief economist with the USDA, has said economic conditions on the farm are not as bad as some farm and congressional leaders perceive them to be. I disagree strongly with Mr. Hjort. Economic conditions in Kansas are severe. President Carter, Sec. Bergland and Mr. Hjort refuse to face the reality of the situation and use the powers they have to make the necessary adjustment in present farm programs," Dole said.

"The worsening economic conditions in agriculture are causing widespread anxiety and concern among the nation's farmers but yet the White House remains silent and takes no decisive action," Dole said.