

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO AMEND GRAIN STANDARDS ACT

HR 5576
10-7

WASHINGTON, D.C.....Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan) Thursday introduced legislation to amend the U.S. Grain Standards Act to permit some grain delivered to export elevators by any means of conveyance other than barge to be transferred into such export elevators without official weighing.

Senators Helms, Boren, Jepsen, Glenn, Hayakawa, Zorinsky, Young, Lugar, and Boschwitz joined as co-sponsors of the bill.

Dole said, "The legislation is also supported by the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Association of Wheat Growers, The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Grain and Feed Association, the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, the North American Export Grain Association and the National Grain Trade Council."

Dole stated, "This legislation will allow some exceptions to the mandatory official government supervision of weighing of all grain inbound to an export elevator. Such supervision is expensive and, in most cases, redundant, with neither shipper nor receiver considering it necessary to settlement of the contract between them. This extra expense is passed on to farmers."

This legislation would:

1. Provide that intracompany shipments of grain into an export elevator by any mode of transportation need not be officially weighed. This would cover shipments of wheat from a regional elevator in Kansas to its export elevator on the Gulf.
2. Provide that official weighing requirements on inbound shipments to an export elevator by rail or truck shall be waived unless requested by shipper or receiver.
3. Provide the waiver, unless requested by shipper or receiver, of supervision on outbound shipments from an export elevator if the grain is not going overseas.

Sen. Dole said, "It is my conviction that this legislation would save U.S. farmers million of dollars annually in marketing costs without posing any treat to the authority or ability of the Federal Grain Inspection Service to effectively monitor the export of U.S. grain and oilseeds. I believe this can be done with no threat to U.S. export integrity."