

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

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CONTACT: BILL KATS
MORGAN WILLIAMS

THIRTY-SEVEN ADDITIONAL KANSAS COUNTIES APPROVED FOR FARM DISASTER LOAN ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON.....Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan) today announced that 37 additional Kansas counties have been approved for federal drought disaster assistance loans for farmers by the Farmers Home Administration of the USDA.

Dole said, "Seventy-four Kansas counties have now been approved by FmHA for drought assistance loans. Kansas farmers in the 74 counties are eligible for emergency loan assistance because of drought conditions that have existed in the state beginning June 1, 1980.

Senator Dole stated, "Adequate emergency loan funds have been made available by the Congress to meet the loan needs in Kansas."

The Kansas counties declared eligible Tuesday by the Washington office of FmHA were: Johnson, Wyandotte, Leavenworth, Jefferson, Atchinson, Doniphan, Brown, Jackson, Nemaha, Pottawatomie, Marshall, Riley, Washington, Clay, Republic, Jewell, Harvey, Sedgwick, Sumner, Reno, Kingman, Harper, Barber, Pratt, Stafford, Barton, Russell, Rooks, Ellis, Rush, Kiowa, Commanche, Trego, Norton, Decatur, Gove, and Logan.

"I requested on July 30 that FmHA consider more Kansas counties. I am pleased they have responded and that many more farmers will now be eligible for disaster loans," Dole said.

"To be eligible for an emergency loan, a farmer would have to have suffered at least a 20 percent loss in one or more crops, and be without an adequate source of private credit. Loans would be made after actual losses were determined by harvesting the damaged crop," Dole said.

The interest rate on loans to cover actual losses is 5 percent. Emergency loans to refinance operating credit and for annual production loans carry a 13½% interest rate. Emergency loans for real estate debts carry a 12½% interest rate.

Dole said, "The USDA emergency boards in the remaining 31 Kansas counties have said emergency loans are not needed at this time. They will continue to monitor the situation and if the need arises recommendations will be made to the state FmHA office. Farmers who need emergency loans should contact their local FmHA office,"