

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1982

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-6521

DOLE, JEPSEN TRY TO HEAD-OFF DEEPER CUTS IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON--In a letter to Agriculture Secretary John Block, Republican Senators Robert Dole and Roger Jepsen today expressed their concerns about recent news reports of proposed FY 1984 cutbacks for the food stamp and child nutrition programs.

"We hope news reports that the Administration is allegedly considering sharp reductions in benefits to people 60-64 years old are inaccurate," said Dole. "We would also hope that attempts to eliminate the participation of residential children's institutions, such as orphanages, homes for the mentally retarded and handicapped, in the Child Care Food Program are also untrue."

"If such budget options have been under active consideration by the Department of Agriculture in preparing its budget recommendations for FY 1984, what seems to be proposed here would result in minimal savings and create undue hardship on vulnerable individuals in genuine need," Dole said. "I believe such plans would be unacceptable to the Congress."

"Although these proposals might have been listed as part of a wide range of options for preliminary consideration by USDA officials, it is by no means certain that they will emerge as part of the President's final FY 1984 budget recommendations," said Dole. "What we should do now, as a precautionary measure, is send a strong signal to the Administration that such a course of further deep cuts in the nutrition area should be redirected into other areas of the budget."