

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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AT GOP PICNIC, DOLE HAILS JEPSSEN AS KEY SENATOR FOR AGRICULTURE

DES MOINES -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today congratulated Iowa Senator Roger Jepsen for his "past and continuing leadership and contribution on behalf of farmers in Iowa and across America."

Senator Dole, the ranking Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee, is in Des Moines to attend the Polk County GOP Picnic at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

"I have worked closer with Senator Jepsen than with any other member of the Senate Agriculture Committee," Dole said, "and no one has worked harder and more conscientiously for the American farmer than Roger."

"Senator Jepsen was selected to be the Chairman of the Agriculture Subcommittee for the Republican National Convention Platform Committee. I know he is taking this great responsibility seriously in order to develop meaningful policies for the coming debate on the 1985 farm bill and beyond."

Dole cited an impressive list of Senator Jepsen's accomplishments in the United States Senate:

- Domestic Policy: "Senator Jepsen has been at the forefront of efforts to improve conservation legislation and include strong conservation language in the 1981 and 1985 farm bills. He is a vigilant defender and outspoken advocate of the corn, soybean, pork and cattle industries in his state and nationwide."

- International: "Roger put together the tough anti-embargo language in the last farm bill and pushed it through over Administration objections. He fought tenaciously against the Carter-Mondale grain embargo, and to get it lifted by President Reagan in April 1981. He joined me during three visits to the Soviet Ambassador in Washington to get negotiations started on the new and expanded long-term grain agreement with the Soviet Union now in force."

- Credit and Debt Problems: "Farmers in Iowa are experiencing the brunt of the current squeeze between low farm prices and the high cost of servicing farm debt. Roger Jepsen will be with them all the way in the effort to find a workable solution that doesn't just buy more time and dig them further into debt."

- Domestic Content Legislation: "Senator Jepsen continues to be a staunch opponent of this ill-advised legislation that would lead to the devastation of the farm economy as the result of retaliatory policies from our trading partners. Domestic content legislation is bad business -- bad for America, bad for American agriculture and bad for the major industries that depend on a healthy farm economy. For example, John Deere alone estimates that, if enacted, domestic content would mean the loss of more than 7,000 Iowa jobs. Roger knows these facts, and that's why he'll be a stonewall every time someone tries to slip through domestic content legislation."

"The family farmer, and the next generation of farmers are in a much better position today because of Roger Jepsen's work in the United States Senate," said Dole.