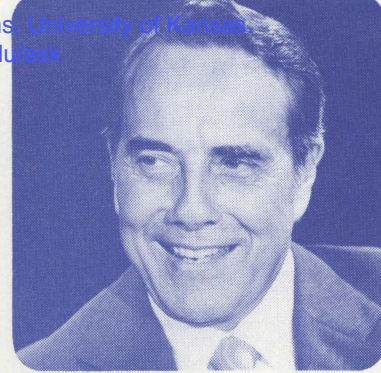


BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

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CONTACT: WALT RIKER, DALE TATE
(202) 224-3135

KANSAS FARMERS GET HELPING HAND:
DOLE CORRECTS FARM BILL MISTAKES

WASHINGTON -- Kansas grain producers won't be jeopardized by a technical foul-up in the 1985 farm bill thanks to action today by Kansas Senator Bob Dole. The Senate approved legislation allowing the Department of Agriculture to waive "cross compliance" requirements for 1986 crops. As a result, Kansas farmers won't have to tear up their fields to meet program requirements.

"We needed to pass this measure before farmers begin signing up for 1986 programs in early March," Dole said. "Kansas wheat and barley producers who overplanted their bases last fall can relax. It doesn't make any sense for our producers to suddenly plow up their crops just to be in the program."

The Dole bill relieves the USDA of the requirement that farmers participating in one program must stay within their base for other crops for which an acreage reduction program is in effect. President Reagan is expected to sign the Dole bill before program sign-up begins in March.

"The bill also includes two other technical corrections to the farm bill. First, we provided that counties in states such as Kansas, where farmers do not want more than one Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, are not forced to appoint one for each of the three administrative areas that will now exist in each county. The other change eliminates the cap on wheat and feed grain base acreage of the previous two-year average that was mistakenly imposed in the farm bill. Bases will be determined by taking the simple average of the previous five years."