

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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SENATE OK'S DOLE PLAN FOR EARLY WHEAT DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS

Washington, DC -- The Senate has approved a measure sponsored by Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) to provide early deficiency payments to wheat farmers.

"By providing farmers with their deficiency payment this year, instead of a full year after they harvest their crop, we will help many farmers overcome a major obstacle: generating sufficient cash flow to continue their operations," said Sen. Dole in introducing the measure.

"This legislation will provide wheat farmers 60-cents per bushel this year by advancing the balance of their deficiency payments from the end of the marketing year - July, 1987 - to December, 1986," said Sen. Dole.

Traditionally, said Dole, farmers have been able to get deficiency payments five months after the beginning of the marketing year. The 1985 Farm Bill requires payments to be made on the basis of the 12-month marketing year price if it is higher than the effective loan rate. Previously farmers received payments based on the average price after the first five months of the marketing year, Dole noted.

The measure is budget neutral, according to Dole, meaning no new revenues are required to pay for it. It was introduced as an amendment to the omnibus spending bill passed by the Senate, and was co-sponsored by Senators Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS), Don Nickles (R-OK), Mark Andrews (R-ND), and David Boren (D-OK).