

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



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DOLE AMENDMENT WOULD HELP ETHANOL PRODUCERS AND FARMERS;  
PASSES THE SENATE OVERWHELMINGLY

Washington, D.C. -- During action on the Clean Air bill today, the Senate overwhelmingly passed an amendment sponsored by Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) today that would significantly increase the market share for grain-based alternative fuels, such as ethanol. The Daschle-Dole amendment, was coauthored by Senator Tom Daschle (D-SD) and Dole. If the proposal becomes law, Kansas ethanol producers and the farmers that supply their feedstock will see a significant growth in this industry.

Senator Dole issued the following statement prior to the vote on the amendment:

MR. PRESIDENT, I AM PROUD TO JOIN WITH SENATOR DASCHLE AND A NUMBER OF OUR COLLEAGUES IN SPONSORING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CLEAN AIR BILL WHICH WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENT IN CLEANING THE AIR OF OUR WORST POLLUTED CITIES.

BEFORE PROCEEDING ANY FURTHER, LET ME STATE FROM THE OUTSET THAT THIS AMENDMENT HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY CHANGED FROM THE FIRST "DASCHLE" AMENDMENT, WHICH I HAD NOT COSPONSORED. MANY OF YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN THE LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY STATING THAT AMENDMENT WOULD COST \$100 BILLION. I'M NOT SURE IF THAT WAS ACCURATE, BUT WAS A LOT OF MONEY.

THAT AMENDMENT MANDATED REFORMULATED GASOLINE IN 101 CITIES, THIS AMENDMENT DEALS ONLY WITH THE NINE CITIES IN WHICH THE BILL ALREADY MANDATES THAT REFORMULATED GASOLINE BE MADE AVAILABLE. THEREFORE, REFORMULATED GASOLINE IS NOT MANDATED FOR ANY CITY THAT WILL NOT ALREADY HAVE REFORMULATED GASOLINE DUE TO THE UNDERLYING SUBSTITUTE.

THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THIS AMENDMENT AND THE SUBSTITUTE. FIRST, UNDER THE DASCHLE/DOLE AMENDMENT, ALL GASOLINE-BURNING AUTOMOBILES IN THE NINE MOST POLLUTED CITIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO BURN REFORMULATED GASOLINE -- NOT JUST NEW VEHICLES AS IS PROPOSED IN THE SUBSTITUTE.

SECOND, THE AMENDMENT PLACES THREE LIMITS ON WHAT CAN CONSTITUTE REFORMULATED GASOLINE. IT PLACES A PHASED-IN 25% LIMIT ON THE AMOUNT OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS THAT MAY BE USED, A PHASED-IN 2.7% OXYGEN CONTENT, AND LIMITS BENZENE -- A CARCINOGENIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBON TO 1% BY VOLUME.

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THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ACCUSATIONS ABOUT THE PROBLEMS THIS AMENDMENT WILL BRING. LET ME ADDRESS A FEW OF THE MAJOR ONES.

SOME HAVE CHARGED THAT THERE WILL BE NO WAY TO GET THE FUEL MANDATED BY THE DASCHLE/DOLE AMENDMENT TO MARKET. BUT, THE SUBSTITUTE ALREADY MANDATES THE SALE OF REFORMULATED GASOLINE IN THE SAME CITIES COVERED BY THIS AMENDMENT. THE DIFFERENCE IS VOLUME. I SUSPECT MOST OIL COMPANIES WILL USE THE PRODUCT PIPELINE CAPACITY, TANK FARM SPACE AND RETAIL PUMPS CURRENTLY DEDICATED TO LEADED GASOLINE FOR REFORMULATED GASOLINE.

OTHERS HAVE CHARGED THAT WE HAVE SO LIMITED THE DEFINITION OF REFORMULATED GASOLINE THAT THE FUEL MAY BE ENVIRONMENTALLY DAMAGING. HOWEVER, WE HAVE INCLUDED A WAIVER FOR THE LIMITATIONS IF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF EPA DETERMINES A FUEL MADE UNDER THESE BROAD SPECIFICATIONS DO LEAD TO ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

FINALLY, I HAVE HEARD THAT OIL REFINERS WILL NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME TO MAKE THESE FUELS AVAILABLE. THEREFORE, WE HAVE DELAYED THE MORE SEVERE AROMATIC LIMITATIONS BY TWO YEARS, AND PROVIDED FOR A THREE YEAR DELAY IN THE SO-CALLED "OPT-IN" PROVISIONS FOR AREAS BEYOND THE ORIGINAL 9 CITIES.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE AMENDMENT WILL HELP BOTH METHANOL AND CLEAN-BURNING, DOMESTICALLY-PRODUCED ETHANOL AND IS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL CORNGROWERS AND RENEWABLE FUELS ASSOCIATION. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS RESPONSIBLY OPPOSED A DIFFERENT FUELS AMENDMENT SEVERAL DAYS AGO, BUT HAVE WORKED VIGOROUSLY FOR THIS MUCH MORE RESPONSIBLE AND ACHIEVABLE AMENDMENT.

AS TO WHETHER THIS AMENDMENT IS A "DEAL BREAKER," I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT DEFINITIONS OF RERFORMULATED GASOLINE WERE NOT DISCUSSED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. FURTHER, THE AMENDMENT DOES NOT EXPAND, BUT RATHER EXACTLY TRACKS THE LANGUAGE FOR REFORMULATED FUEL AVAILABILITY IN POLLUTED CITIES, AND I INTEND TO VOTE AGAINST ANY MOTION TO TABLE AND FOR THE AMENDMENT.