

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, May 26, 1994

Contact: Clarkson Hine
(202) 224-5358

CHINA MFN

EXTENDING MFN TO CHINA IS THE RIGHT THING;
DE-LINKING ADVANCES TRADE & HUMAN RIGHTS;
CRITICAL STEP FOR WHEAT & AVIATION INDUSTRIES

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today issued the following statement regarding the extension of most-favored-nation trade status to China:

The President did the right thing by extending China's most-favored-nation trade status, despite the face-saving conditions that do little to mask this reversal of his previous position.

De-Link Trade & Human Rights

The issue is not either trade or human rights. De-linking trade and human rights can produce progress on both fronts. U.S. trade with China supports free market reforms and greater liberalization. It is also important to remain engaged to better ensure Chinese cooperation on North Korea.

That is why I hope this annual frenzied ritual of threatening to withdraw MFN for China will finally cease. This nearly disastrous experiment has repeatedly brought us to the brink of a trade war, thrown markets into disarray and threatened our security interests in Asia. Make no mistake, we cannot condone China's record on human rights, but we should not sacrifice American jobs by cutting off trade in a vain effort to change China's behavior. We should continue to bring pressure on China to improve its human rights practices, and I believe the human rights commission called for by the President is a step in that direction.

Kansas Impact

For Kansas, and our state's wheat and aircraft industries, extension of MFN is particularly critical. Our farmers will now be able to continue to sell wheat to the vast Chinese market, without fear of retaliation. Our aerospace industry will witness increasingly strong demand in China and will sell billions of dollars of new aircraft. Just today, Boeing announced an agreement with Chinese air carriers for the potential purchase of airplanes valued at more than \$5 billion. Without MFN, that deal surely would not happen.

The fact is, continued normal trade relations with China means jobs for Kansans, and jobs for tens of thousands of Americans.

###