

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF  
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS)

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) said today the "continuing Senate filibuster against the satellite communications bill may eliminate any chance for farm legislation this year."

He pointed out the Senate had been scheduled to act today, August 1, on its version of farm legislation. The House on July 25 passed basically a simple extension of present wheat and feed grain programs.

"Now it seems unlikely the Senate will take up the farm bill until next week, if then," Dole said. "Because of the broad differences in the House and Senate versions of this legislation, the two branches would have to go to conference after the Senate acts. There is no certainty that these differences would be resolved, nor is there any assurance that both the House and Senate would accept whatever report might emerge from conference.

"The farm bill delay is particularly frustrating for wheat growers of Kansas and the other winter wheat states. They don't know how much wheat they will be permitted to plant or what price they will receive for it. If a temporary extension of the present wheat program were to win approval somehow, they would again take the same 10 percent cut below their regular acreage allotments as in 1962. If the two price plan is enacted, as proposed by the Senate, the cut would be at least 20 percent. If no law is enacted, there would be no acreage cut and farmers would operate as they did in 1961. Whatever plan becomes effective, wheat growers must approve it in a national referendum and that also takes time.

"With the present confused situation, the farmer doesn't know what to do. He can't fight nature. He is now preparing his land for seeding and planting time is fast approaching. Understandably, the farmer in winter wheat areas is beginning to wonder whether the New Frontiersmen are as concerned with his problems as their news releases indicate.

"It was Secretary Freeman's obstinacy--his refusal to compromise--which delayed Congressional action so long on the farm bill. Now a handful of Democratic liberals in the Senate may finally bury the farm bill under a torrent of words."

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