



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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HEARINGS WILL BEGIN ON SILO BILL

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- Hearings will begin today on Senator Bob Dole's bill to increase the availability of construction loans for silos and other on-the-farm high-moisture storage structures.

Loans for these structures are now available only at the discretion of USDA and Dole's bill would broaden present law to include high-moisture storage structures whenever storage construction loan money is available.

Dole, a member of the Subcommittee on Agriculture Production, Marketing and Stabilization of Prices which is conducting hearings on the bill, said it would allow farmers to choose between dry or high moisture storage, enabling them to choose the most profitable farm operation. "Although storage construction loans have been available, high-moisture structures have not been eligible since 1972. It makes sense to change the law so that farmers can determine and meet their own needs."

"High moisture grain is being used more," Dole said. "One benefit is the energy saving -- more fuel was used to dry 70% of the 1972 corn crop than was used to grow all of it."

"Lending a hand to the farmer in terms of financing for storage structures could encourage economic production of milk and meat and help keep farmers in business. This legislation could assist farmers in Kansas and most other states, since nearly all have some livestock or dairy operations."