



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE OPPOSES SUSPENSION OF SUNDAY POSTAL SERVICE TO RURAL AREAS

Senator Dole has asked the United States Postmaster General to delay the planned suspension of Sunday service in Southeastern Kansas rural post offices. The Senator's office has been informed that the Postal Service intends to suspend all Sunday star route carrier service from the Independence and Fort Scott sectional postal centers to 3rd and 4th class rural post office beginning September 13. This action would also eliminate mail service on Sunday to rental box patrons.

In a letter to Postmaster General Benjamin F. Bailar, Senator Dole noted that he and other members of the Kansas Congressional delegation in Washington would want to request further details on the reasons for these plans, and would want to have "an advisory input" into the final decision on suspension. "The suspension of rural mail service on Sundays is of extreme concern to Kansas residents in the area, particularly in light of recent reports that the Postal Service may be considering closing rural post offices altogether," Dole said.

"I know that my fellow colleagues from Kansas and myself will want to request further information about the economy and the wisdom involved in this move when Congress reconvenes in early September, and I hope you will agree to postpone any action of this type for one month."

Dole added that, although this decision for suspension of service ultimately rests with the Postal Service and its District and Regional offices, he was confident the Postmaster General would carefully consider his request to postpone the move.