



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE REQUESTS HEARINGS TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW GRAIN INSPECTION LAW

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today requested that the Senate Agriculture Subcommittee on Agricultural Production, Marketing, and Stabilization of Prices schedule hearings as soon as possible to review the problems associated with the implementation of the Grain Standards Act of 1976.

"My state of Kansas is extremely concerned about some of the actions of the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS)," Dole said. "One of the major problems is the startling cost of federal inspection supervision. The shift from appropriations to a fee-supported basis and the increase in federal supervision of grain inspection is estimated to cost Kansas approximately \$500,000. Other problems include the interpretation and implementation of the conflict of interest provision and the new recordkeeping requirements for country elevators."

Upon learning of the problems of the Kansas Grain Inspection Department (KSID), Dole scheduled a meeting for January 18. The meeting will include the director of the KSID and other producer and grain trade representatives and FGIS officials and is an effort to resolve or at least minimize the problems in Kansas.

"Since the meeting was announced, it has become increasingly evident that these problems and possibly others, are not isolated cases but indicative of widespread confusion on the part of many state and private inspection agencies, elevator operators, and our grain farmers," Dole said. "I do not want the FGIS to overreact to this legislation at the expense of our grain producers."

"In view of this widespread interest and concern on the part of a number of states and the other elements of the grain trade, I would like to request that hearings be scheduled as soon as possible to review these problems and to take whatever action is appropriate to alleviate them."