

54.



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE, MCGOVERN SPONSOR FOOD STAMP REFORM BILL

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole (R. Kan.) has again joined with Senator George S. McGovern (D-S.D.) in the introduction of legislation to reform the food stamp program.

Last year the Senate passed a bill patterned after a measure sponsored by Dole and McGovern. But the House adjourned without acting on its version of the food stamp measure, and the program remained intact.

NO CASH REQUIREMENT

Dole said today the changes he and McGovern favor would:

-- Make it easier for the deserving poor to use the stamps by eliminating the present requirement that they pay cash for part of their allotment.

-- Tighten the income eligibility limitations so that undeserving upper income recipients are no longer able to use them.

-- Help the taxpayers by eliminating the administrative costs associated with the sale of stamps.

WORK RULES

The Dole-McGovern bill also would reduce the value of the stamps -- from the present net monthly benefit of \$116 for a family of four who have an income of \$200 a month, to a new net subsidy of \$106 a month. But eligible families could receive stamps without paying for them.

Other provisions of the bill would strengthen the work requirements for able-bodied recipients and make it easier for working mothers to deduct their child day-care costs from the income eligibility standards.

The new Dole-McGovern bill, similar to the one they co-sponsored last year, was introduced on Tuesday and referred to the Agriculture Committee, on which they both serve. Committee hearings are scheduled for March 8 and 9.