



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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DOLE URGES BERGLAND TO DECLARE DISASTER EMERGENCY IN 25 KANSAS COUNTIES

TOPEKA, KS. -- Senator Bob Dole today urged Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland to approve a request that a disaster emergency be declared in 25 Kansas counties and that emergency agricultural credit programs be implemented. In a letter to Bergland, Dole pointed out that severe rain, hail and wind storms during May and June had caused damaged estimated at \$58.6 million.

The counties affected include: Butler, Chase, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Clay, Cloud, Cowley, Dickinson, Elk, Grant, Greeley, Kingman, Labette, Linn, Marion, Meade, Miami, Montgomery, Morris, Morton, Ottawa, Reno, Saline and Stevens.

Following is the text of the letter Dole sent to Bergland:

As you know, severe rain, hail and wind storms during May and June caused major damage to crops, livestock and property in 25 counties in Kansas. The State USDA Emergency Board has estimated that the damage totals \$58.6 million in economic loss suffered by 12,670 farmers.

I urge you to approve Governor Robert Bennett's request that a disaster emergency be declared and that emergency agricultural credit programs be implemented in the 25 storm damaged communities. Farmers are already facing severe economic hardship due to depressed commodity prices and many could be forced out of business unless the emergency farm credit programs are made available very soon.

I believe the facts collected by the Emergency Board demonstrate the seriousness of the storm damage in Kansas and the urgency of Governor Bennett's request. I look forward to a prompt and favorable declaration in response to the current plight of Kansas farmers.