



NEWS from **U.S. Senator Bob Dole**

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DOLE AGAIN URGES TRANSFER OF FmHA FUNDS TO FARM OWNERSHIP LOAN PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today pointed out to Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland that excess Farmers Home Administration funds of \$75 million must be transferred to the farm ownership loan program before Friday, or they will be lost to farmers.

On September 9, Dole had urged Bergland to transfer the remaining fiscal year 1977 farm operating loan funds to the farm ownership loan program, and to allocate \$12 million of the transferred funds to Kansas. The Kansas Farmers Home Administration shut off the processing of farm ownership loan applications in Kansas in May because of a shortage of loan funds. 292 Kansas farmers whose loans have been approved are waiting for loan funds.

Following is the text of Dole's telegram today to Bergland:

Farmers across the nation need loan funds to finance their farms. The Farmers Home Administration is out of funds for farm real estate loans. Farmers have been waiting over one year for loan funds.

Farmers Home Administration has excess farm operating funds of \$75 million. These funds have to be transferred from operating loans to farm ownership loans before Friday, September 30, 1977, or they will be lost to farmers. The monies are needed now to help farmers.

Ten members of the U.S. Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee have recommended the transfer of these excess loan funds. USDA has failed to respond and immediate attention to this problem is needed. \$75 million stands to be lost if you do not act this week.