

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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SENATE AG PANEL OK'S DISASTER PAYMENTS FOR '87 WHEAT CROP

Washington, DC -- Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) said legislation adopted by the Senate Agriculture Committee today is "an important step" toward providing financial assistance to winter wheat producers who were unable to plant their crops because of heavy floods in late 1986.

"Without this kind of help, we're likely to see more Kansas farmers either being forced out of business or having greater debts piled on them through no fault of their own," said Sen. Dole. "The committee's approval of this legislation is an important step in the right direction. It's urgent that we put this on a fast track and explore our options to assist these farmers."

According to Dole, the legislation adopted by the Agriculture Committee would make winter wheat producers who were prevented from planting their crops for harvest in 1987 eligible for disaster payments under the \$400 million disaster payment program enacted in 1986. Under the original disaster program, eligibility was restricted only to farmers who harvested their crop in 1986, Dole noted.

The legislation would also extend the disaster payment application deadline to February 28, 1987, said Dole.

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