

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



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## DOLE URGES SMALLER ARP FOR 1988 WHEAT PROGRAM

Washington, DC -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole has urged the Administration to adopt an Acreage Reduction Program (ARP) level of not more than 27.5-percent for the 1988 wheat program.

"Some within the Administration would prefer a 30-percent ARP, since it would save a little money," according to Sen. Dole. "However, I believe there are many of us who would side with a smaller ARP level of not more than 27.5-percent."

Sen. Dole today introduced a resolution that encourages the smaller ARP, citing increased exports. "Exports are up this marketing year, and for the first in in several years demand will exceed domestic production. It is simply not good policy to keep high ARPs in place with such trends," said Sen. Dole.

"Not only do high ARP levels reduce producer income, they also send the wrong signal to our competitors who increase their production to take advantage of the set-aside requirements U.S. producers face," Sen. Dole noted.

Dole said another consideration in urging the lower ARP was the Conservation Reserve Program's impact in further reducing the number of acres used for wheat production.

Details of the 1988 wheat program were to have been announced earlier this month. Dole said the delay was due in part to an "internal debate" in the Administration over the ARP level to be established. "It seems an annual problem," said Sen. Dole of the delay, "which makes it difficult for American wheat farmers to make planting decisions."

Sen. Nancy Kassebaum and other wheat state senators have joined Dole in cosponsoring the resolution.