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AGRICULTURE  
  
DISTRICT OFFICE:  
210 FEDERAL BUILDING  
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE  
BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
May 4, 1965

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate this opportunity of appearing before your subcommittee on behalf of a National Grain Marketing Research Laboratory.

I am greatly concerned over the future of agriculture in Kansas, in the Midwest and throughout the country. Farmers in America continue to suffer from over-efficiency in production and inefficiency in marketing and development, and to this end it is my hope that development and research in the type laboratory proposed, might in the foreseeable future, cut the cost of wheat, feed grain, and other farm programs.

The projected cost of the laboratory has been revised upwards since I appeared before this subcommittee 2 years ago, and is now estimated at \$3,385,000, including development of plans, construction and equipment. Interested organizations and individuals have appeared before this committee over a span of several years urging appropriation of planning funds to get this project on its way. I again wish to emphasize the importance of this project, and urge that planning funds be provided in this fiscal year -- a sum I have been informed is estimated at \$212,000, and point out that this is a part of the total amount mentioned above. The Department of Agriculture has estimated this amount can be fully utilized for the architectural design of the research facility, surveys, soil tests and a small amount of research. I recognize that in subsequent years it would be necessary to consider construction funds and appropriations for equipment, salaries and annual operating expenses.

This project has the enthusiastic backing of leading farm organizations, as well as officials in the Department of Agriculture concerned with problems involving improved marketing methods and practices.

Agricultural progress is directly a result of agricultural research, and a great gap exists in our research effort dealing with the storage, handling, processing, transportation and quality evaluation of grain, especially wheat. This situation is particularly detrimental to our competing in the export market and research is one of the main avenues by which we can create new opportunities and new incentives for those who make a living from the land.

Over the past several years, many experts in the field of foreign marketing of our grain have repeatedly returned from trips to foreign countries, where they had gone for the purpose of investigating possible methods of expanding our markets, with reports that the greatest need exists in the areas of improving the quality of grain reaching foreign markets and improving the efficiency of such movements. This research center would serve as the implement for agencies engaged in grading of grain, in development and testing equipment and facilities, in finding better and cheaper methods, and in finding new markets.

A grain marketing research center should be located in the heart of an area which offers the necessary resources for successful and productive research. Kansas is not only centrally located geographically, but is the center for the production of food and feed grain, and is by far the largest wheat producing state. Many facilities already exist at the Kansas State University at Manhattan. Complete pilot plant equipment is available for grain storage, cleaning and processing. These facilities would serve the Grain Marketing Research Center for cooperative work on problems related to grain marketing. In addition, experts in the field of agricultural research and teaching are already at the University in addition to an excellent wheat reference library. These are assets which should weigh heavily in favor of locating the laboratory in our state.

Thank you.