

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

244 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
CAPITOL 4-3121, EXT. 2715

COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67901

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

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For Release - 12:00 Noon
Friday - July 16, 1965

Washington, D. C., Friday, July 16, 1965

Congressman Bob Dole, (R-Kansas) introduced legislation today to amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.

Dole stated the major change accomplished by the amendment would be to increase from 5,000 acre feet to 12,500 acre feet the maximum flood-water detention capacity of a single flood retarding structure.

"The original law, Public Law 566, enacted in 1954 provided assistance to local areas in planning and constructing multi-purpose water detention systems with a total capacity of up to 25,000 acre feet, but the limit of 5,000 acre feet which the 1954 Act established on a single structure prohibits maximization of potential resources, particularly in areas of moderate rainfall, such as Kansas. The proposed amendment will help resolve the problem by increasing the single structure capacity to 12,500 acre feet."

The legislation, if adopted, would also change the Act in several other respects, First, any additions to the plans of the eleven pilot watershed improvement programs authorized in 1944 would be subject to regular Congressional approval procedures. Second, local sponsors could make use of federal funds available under other federal programs for the acquisition of lands, easements, and rights-of-way. Finally, where water supply or control are involved in projects of a sufficient size, the plans would be submitted to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for comment before Congressional action.

"This legislation will be helpful in bringing the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act into line with the needs of Kansas and the nation," Dole concluded.