

RELEASE - August 5, 1965

Congressman Bob Dole joined other Congressmen from sugar beet areas in introducing legislation which would authorize marketing of domestically produced sugar. The key provision in the legislation is, "the domestic beet sugar area and the mainland cane sugar area would be permitted to market, as determined by the Secretary, a quantity of sugar not exceeding 3,025,000 short tons raw value and 1,100,000 short tons raw value, respectively, during each of the years 1965 and 1966."

In a speech on the House floor Congressman Dole joined other sugar beet congressmen in asking immediate action on sugar legislation.

He pointed out that during the sugar emergency in 1963 the U. S. was unable to obtain foreign sugar to fill our needs at reasonable prices and, as a result, sugar prices rose drastically.

He stated: "It was during these critical times that our government called upon our domestic sugar producers, and particularly our beet sugar industry, to produce sugar to the fullest extent of their capacity, and to increase that capacity by making additional investments in processing equipment. The government announced that there would be no sugar beet acreage controls through the 1965 crop year.

"Our beet sugar industry responded to their everlasting credit and increased production in 1963 by one-half million tons of the previous year and this same beet sugar industry sold its sugar during the emergency at between \$1 and \$3 per 100 pounds less than the cane sugar refined from the high-priced foreign raw sugar.

"Our domestic industry, Mr. Speaker, kept cane sugar prices from going even higher than they did and were almost solely responsible for bringing sugar prices back to a reasonable level.

"And how has our government rewarded the industry? Our government has rewarded our American sugar farmers and our producers by turning its back on them. Our government has not provided our domestic industry with the authority to market the sugar they have produced. The storage bins are full, but not one pound of this excess sugar can be sold unless legislative relief is forthcoming, and soon.

"This is why I am joining my colleagues today in introducing legislation to alleviate this problem",