

House of Representatives, U.S.
Committee on Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 1967

The House Committee on Agriculture approved by a 22 to 7 vote today a bill (H. R. 6437) by Rep. Robert Dole, R-Kans., providing for partial payments to wheat producers in advance of crop harvesting.

Urging favorable consideration of his measure, Dole said it extends to wheat farmers the same benefits already available under the feed grain and cotton programs.

The bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to make payments not to exceed 50 per cent of the payments represented by domestic marketing certificates issued under the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

Sign-up for the wheat program generally is conducted during February and March, although in Kansas and other winter wheat states there is planting in the fall. Dole pointed out that the advance payments could save a great many wheat farmers from making loans to tide them over until harvest.

Time of payments would be made at the discretion of the Secretary, but could be expected at sign-up. If the bill is enacted soon, it could apply to the 1968 crop, with winter wheat growers benefitting by three to six months' earlier payment than when they otherwise would be paid.