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FROM: The office of Congressman Bob Dole
109 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE APRIL 3, 1968

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 3 -- Congressman Bob Dole today asked Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz to reconsider regulations forbidding certain employment of youth under age 16 in agriculture.

In a letter to Secretary Wirtz, Dole said, "I urge you to reconsider regulations limiting farm youth employment. Several occupations now restricted can be performed safely and adequately by persons under 16, especially as drivers of average-sized farm tractors."

The labor regulations, which went into effect January 1, forbid hiring youth in 16 "hazardous occupations" including operating or riding a tractor over 20-belt horsepower.

In his letter, Dole noted the Kansas House of Representatives passed a resolution urging Wirtz to reconsider the regulations.

The Kansas Congressman, a ranking member of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee, noted over 800,000 youth under age 16 are employed each year in agriculture. That figure, he added, represents a maximum of 25 per cent of the seasonal work force.