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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 25 --- Senator Bob Dole testified today before a Senate subcommittee in support of legislation providing for penalty per diem rates to solve the boxcar shortages during critical harvest seasons.

Testimony was being heard with regard to S. 3223, a bill to give the Interstate Commerce Commission additional authority to alleviate freight car shortages. Senator Dole is co-sponsor of the bill.

Dole appeared before the Special Subcommittee on Freight Car Shortages of the Commerce Committee. "Technical advances of agriculture in recent years have added to the efficiencies of the American farmer, however, he has no assurance his crop will be efficiently handled and transported due to the shortage of railroad equipment in which it is shipped to terminal markets," Dole said.

He explained how farmers have built on-the-farm storage and large grain elevators. "The grain farmers of Kansas, " he emphasized, "have enough to worry about in growing and harvesting a crop without seeing their grain piled on the ground at the mercy of the weather while awaiting railroad boxcars."

In substantiation of the problem and support for the legislation before the committee, Senator Dole submitted statements from interested Kansans. They all expressed the common thought that the bill being considered would enable the Interstate Commerce Commission to overcome some of the shortages of railroad equipment.

The statements inserted in the record of the Commerce Committee were from: Ellis K. Cave, Dodge City Terminal Elevator, Dodge City; J.M. Cranor, Kansas Grain & Feed Dealers Association; Dean Evans, Evans Grain Company, Salina; Fred L. Merrill, ADM Milling Company, Kansas City; Milton Morrison, Morrison Grain Company, Salina; W.C. Theis, Simonds-Shields-Theis Grain Co., Kansas City; Henry Yunck, FAR-MAR-CO., INC., Hutchinson; R. Hugh Uhlmann, Standard Milling Company, Kansas City.