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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 225-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. April 30 ^{#427} -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) said today's Senate approval of the school lunch bill means that "all children will be able to listen and study free from hunger pains and unexposed to ridicule of their poverty status."

Dole is a member of the Agriculture and Forestry Committee and the Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

"A child cannot feed his mind if his stomach is empty," Dole said. "This bill will assure adequate and nutritious meals for all students, especially the children from lower income and poverty families."

The bill provides that a child from a low income family will receive his meals free or at reduced rates. Schools unable to afford kitchen and serving equipment necessary to qualify for the ^{school} lunch program may ^{now} rent the equipment or ^{utilize} ~~purchase the meals from~~ professional catering firms on a contract basis.