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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
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FOR RELEASE WEEK OF JUNE 25, 1970

WASHINGTON, D.C. June 25 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) has introduced legislation which would make permanent two dairy programs currently due to expire this year.

The dairy indemnity program, which expires June 30, provides for minimal payments to owners of dairy herds for milk production condemned due to contamination of the milk from pesticides.

"Payments for this indemnity program are decreasing regularly due to improvements in the handling and application of agricultural chemicals," Dole emphasized, "but the protection is still vitally needed for the producers, due to their high investment and low margins."

The second program is scheduled to expire in December. It provides for the transferral of dairy products from Commodity Credit Corporation stocks to military and veterans hospitals.

"The perpetuation of these programs would provide a measure of stability for the dairy industry and a plentiful supply of milk and milk products for military and veterans' hospitals," Dole said. "I hope action will be taken soon on this legislation."