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\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 11 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) assured farmers today that there will be no federal obstacles preventing 18 to 21 year-olds from driving farm trucks in the coming harvest.

Last week Dole wired Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe requesting suspension of the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) regulation prohibiting 18-21-year-old youth from driving farm trucks in interstate commerce.

From new information received today, Dole said "that presently, the Federal Highway Administration is working with the Department of Agriculture in resolving differences concerning the FHA regulation in question;" and he expects, in the next few days, an announcement of the results of their efforts. The Kansas Senator said he is **certain** the announcement will facilitate the farmers in the coming harvest.

Dole said he understands there will be no obstacle confronting the hiring of 18 to 21-year-old drivers for farm-owned and controlled trucks of 10,000 lb. gross weight and under in interstate commerce. He added that he believes the original regulation was never intended to restrict the use of trucks for personal transportation of farm youth, so regardless of the new action, farm youth will still be able to drive the family farm truck for personal use.