

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 29 ---- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) praised the passage of the Federal Meat Inspection Act today in the Senate.

Dole, who is a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, commented:

I am grateful that the Senate has seen fit to provide more realistic meat inspection assistance for the states, by voting to provide 80 per cent of the cost of state inspection programs rather than the former 50 per cent assistance.

The Senate demonstrated that it recognized the fact that the states have been greatly burdened by the increased inspection responsibilities and costs.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Consumer and Marketing Service will also benefit by the Act because it will allow states to continue to provide the inspection services, rather than throwing the total burden on the already strained federal facilities.

Before the Act's passage in the Senate today, Dole had expressed on the Senate floor his support for the Mathias Amendment to the Federal Meat Inspection Act. The amendment would have allowed meat processed in state inspected plants to be distributed in interstate commerce when the state inspection standards had been found to be equal to federal inspection requirements. Kansas is one of 47 states that has fulfilled the requirement. The Mathias Amendment, however, was defeated in the Senate.

The Federal Meat Inspection Act bill will now be sent to the House for consideration.