



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole commented today on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's announcement of the 1974 farm program for wheat. "The main impact of the program," Dole said, "is to allow farmers to plant all the acreage they want in view of the strong domestic and foreign demand predicted for next year. An important provision is the allotment of 55 million acres for wheat planting. In addition, the normal conserving base is deleted for the full four year term of the 1973 farm act. The intent of these measures coincides with the desire of many farmers to lessen government restriction on farm production. The ample supply of food and increased efficiency resulting from the new program should provide consumers with an **abundance** of reasonably priced farm products."

The expansion of wheat acreage demonstrates the flexibility of the Farm Act of 1970 which has been extended and which permits matching agricultural output with prospective demand. The target price concept of the recently signed Farm Act of 1973 protects the farmer in the event that these calculations are wrong and the market becomes glutted with grain,

"Finally," Dole stated, "full substitution of any crop not under a marketing quota will be permitted. This measure will allow farmers maximum flexibility in planting the crops which market prices indicate are in greatest demand. The release of all excess wheat without any penalty whatsoever will also be good news to many Kansas farmers and will increase the supply of wheat available to the market."

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