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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE URGES HASTE IN HEARINGS TO AID PLASTICS PROCESSORS

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole, in letters today to Senators Henry Jackson, Chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and Paul Fannin, ranking Republican of that Committee, urged haste in scheduling hearings on Dole's Plastic Feedstock Allocation bill.

Dole's bill, which he introduced earlier this month, would require equitable distribution of plastic feedstocks at equitable prices among all regions and areas of the United States and all sectors of the plastics industry, including independent plastics processors and small plastics processors.

In his letters, Dole said, "One of the most severe impacts of the energy shortage has been on independent plastic processors. In spite of several efforts by the Federal Energy Office, the Cost of Living Council, myself and many other Senators, plastic processors continue to be unable to purchase an adequate supply of plastic raw materials for their operations."

A recent study of independent processors in the Kansas City area showed all but one of the companies contacted indicated a cut back in supplies. Dole said that as of December 1973, "over half of those polled had experienced cutbacks in operations of 50% or more compared with operation in the first half of 1973 - resulting in sharp labor cutbacks and severe financial hardship for the companies and their employees."

Dole said the economic significance of independent plastic processors in Kansas and all over the country and their approaching financial bankruptcy due to inability to obtain plastic materials necessitates hearings on the proposed legislation as soon as possible.