



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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DOLE SEEKS COMPROMISE ON FOOD STAMP REFORM LEGISLATION

Senator Bob Dole predicted today that the Senate will pass a food stamp reform bill early next week which would prohibit middle-income families and college students from receiving food stamps. At the same time, Dole said he is working with Senator Herman Talmadge, Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman, and Senator George McGovern, Senate Nutrition Committee Chairman, to reach a compromise on amendments to the legislation designed to help truly needy families obtain food assistance.

Dole, author of the Senate's major food stamp reform bill, said he is "striving for a balanced reform of the food stamp program -- one which cuts out the abusers with the highest incomes while enabling many impoverished families to receive needed nutritional assistance for the first time".

Dole, along with a bipartisan groups of twelve Senators, is proposing an amendment which would enable the truly needy -- especially the elderly poor living on fixed incomes -- to receive food stamp benefits. If Dole's amendment is adopted, \$250 million or more could be trimmed from the food stamp program, including an estimated \$50 million in reduced administrative costs. The amendment has received strong support from state food stamp administrators who are looking for ways to trim bureaucratic costs from the program.

The Senate is expected to begin debate on the food stamp reform bill Monday afternoon.