



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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SENATE GRAIN INSPECTION BILL IS POLITICS, NOT SOLUTION

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole said today that Senate sponsors of the Grain Inspection bill are seeking a political issue -- not an answer to the problems in the grain inspection system. The Senate approved the grain inspection bill yesterday.

"It should be clear that the sponsors' real intent is to expand the federal bureaucracy and increase federal red-tape in a manner that will not substantially improve the inspection of grain," said the leading Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Dole said he has received indications that Senate sponsors of the bill will seek, in the Joint Conference with the House, to trade off federal inspection at the ports and major inland terminals for establishment of a separate inspection agency. "The President will probably veto any legislation that simply increases the size of the federal bureaucracy for no good reason, and the Senate bill certainly falls into that category. Knowing this, Senate sponsors are simply trying to provoke a political confrontation with the White House -- a confrontation that will in no way benefit farmers."

"Farmers have no desire to have the federal government completely take over the inspection system and they see no reason for the creation of a new federal agency. They want an answer to our present grain inspection problems -- not to provide a political forum," Dole continued. He said this is indicated by the narrow defeat of his amendments to strike federal inspection at inland terminals and to strike the creation of a separate federal agency. "If the entire Senate had been present and voting," Dole said, "my amendments would have been adopted." Twenty-six Senators were absent, most of whom Dole considered supporters of the amendments.