



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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SUGAR BEET PRODUCERS FORCED TO BEAR UNFAIR INFLATION BURDEN

MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA -- Senator Bob Dole charged today that the Carter Administration "is apparently intent on forcing sugar beet producers in the Red River Valley to bear an unfair share of the battle against inflation."

"For over a year, President Carter simply forgot about inflation. He did nothing while inflation slowly started creeping back up to near double-digit levels. Now -- in the past few weeks -- a consistent, well-publicized campaign has been orchestrated by the President and his Council on Wage and Price Stability against nearly every legislative effort to help America's farmers and ranchers," Dole said.

"It wasn't enough for the Administration to kill the emergency farm bill which contained the 'flexible parity' target price concept for wheat and feed grain producers. Now the Administration wants to kill the Sugar Stabilization Act, which would hold down imports and increase prices for domestic sugar producers here in Minnesota and elsewhere," Dole said.

Dole referred to a report issued this week by the Council on Wage and Price Stability which opposed the Sugar Stabilization Act of 1978.

"I think American beet growers and all family farmers deserve some protection from imports. I don't think they should be singled out as whipping boys in the fight against inflation while exorbitant wage increases for coal miners and substantial price increases for some manufacturers are ignored. But that is precisely what President Carter wants."

Dole made his remarks at a rally for Congressman Arlan Stangeland in Moorhead, Minnesota on Saturday morning following a Friday evening appearance in Fargo, North Dakota.