



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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## DOLE HUMANE SLAUGHTER BILL CLEARS CONGRESS; GOES TO PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON -- The Senate today agreed to a House amendment to a bill by Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) that requires all livestock slaughtering done under federal and state inspection to follow humane methods. The bill also requires that foreign countries exporting meat to the United States use humane methods of slaughter.

The bill amends the Federal Meat Inspection Act to extend the requirements of the Humane Slaughter Act of 1958, which had previously applied only to livestock slaughtered for sale to the federal government.

The bill restates the 1958 act's exemption of religious ritual slaughter in order to protect freedom of religion.

The amendment agreed to by the Senate today resolves minor differences between the House and Senate versions of the bill.

"It clarifies the way in which an interruption of federal inspection would be used in enforcing humane slaughter requirements," Dole said.

The amendment also sets 18 months as the maximum extra time the secretary of agriculture could grant to a slaughterhouse that shows it would suffer undue hardship from compliance with the new law, when it becomes effective (one year after enactment).

Dole explained that "this provision is designed to give state legislatures sufficient time to change state laws to conform to the new federal requirements."

Sen. Edward Brooke (R-Mass.) was a cosponsor of the Senate bill.