



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE SEES INCREASED GOVERNMENT INTEREST IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON -- Nutrition will play an increasingly important role in the formulation of food policies, Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) told an Association of School Business Officials gathering today.

"Both the Senate and the House of Representatives are much more aware today of the nation's nutritional and health concerns than they were a few short years ago," Dole said. "The school lunch program, the food stamp program, nutrition programs for the elderly -- each has received a great deal of attention in Washington. And, as we strive to improve the health of the American people, to hold down hospital and medical care costs, nutrition is going to grow even more important."

One of the areas in which Congress is trying to redirect efforts in light of recent findings in the area of nutrition, is cancer research.

"At a time when research indicates that some 50 percent of the cancer deaths in this nation are diet-related -- 60 percent in women and 40 percent in men -- less than 1 percent of the nation's \$867-million-plus cancer research budget is diet-nutrition related," Dole said.

"Several steps have been taken to redirect the National Cancer Institute's programming towards the prevention of serious illness. Just last week, several of my colleagues in the Senate joined me in urging the 'earmarking' of \$30 million of next year's \$925-million cancer research budget for research related to diet and nutrition.

"Nutrition education was made an important part of the food stamp program for the poor. State agencies have been asked to provide recipients of various state nutrition programs with a better understanding about the relationship between the foods they buy and their health and general well-being."

Dole added that pending legislation before Congress further involves nutrition in government programs. Technical assistance, including nutrition education, is encouraged in legislation governing next year's Child Care Food Program, a bill Dole introduced earlier this year. And medical school training, where recipient schools require satisfactory completion of nutrition courses for all students as a condition of graduation, holds a \$10-million line item in this year's appropriations bill.