

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE URGES CARTER SUPPORT OF FARM LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.), in a telegram today to President Carter, called on the President to give his support to legislation raising loan rates for grains. Dole added that the legislation would help erase the "devastating impact" farm policy and weather problems have had on the agricultural community.

The Senate passed the legislation Friday as amendments to important nutrition legislation, S. 2675.

Following is the text of Senator Dole's telegram:

Knowing that you will be meeting today with leaders of farm organizations and commodity groups, it is my hope there can be a discussion of S. 2675, which passed the Senate last Friday. An amendment to that bill provides for increases in loan rates for wheat, corn and soybeans; alters set-aside announcement; and creates a new food reserve.

As you know, farm income is down and this, coupled with the drought in many agricultural states, has had a devastating impact on rural America. Administration support of the amendment to S. 2675 would help insure speedy and perhaps favorable action by the House and by House-Senate conferees.

Thank you for meeting with America's farm leaders today.

BOB DOLE
UNITED STATES SENATE

Senator Dole has issued an invitation to farm leaders meeting with the President today to join him and other farm-state senators at 3:30 p.m. in his office (2213 Dirksen).

The Dole-McGovern agriculture amendments contain four major provisions:

--Increase loan rates on wheat, corn and soybeans. Wheat loan rates would go from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a bushel, corn from \$2.10 to \$2.25, and soybeans from \$4.50 to \$5.02.

--Create a new special loan rate on grain going into a farmer-held reserve, with wheat at \$3.30 and corn at \$2.40.

--Change the dates for wheat and corn set-aside announcements by the secretary of agriculture to Aug. 1 for wheat and Nov. 1 for corn.

--Set up a food reserve composed of four million metric tons of wheat, from grain purchased by the government as part of a plan to counter effects of the embargo. Congress, through appropriations, could replenish the reserve.