

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE TO INTORDUCE ANTI-EMBARGO CLAUSE IN 1981 FARM BILL

NORTON, Kan. -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan) said today, "The time has come for the Congress to enter into serious discussions about food embargoes and to set up long-term policies to guide U.S. actions in the future."

"As a farm state Senator I believe we must have a long-term moratorium implemented by the Congress on politically motivated agricultural embargoes. Only in the case of war or genuine national emergency should a President be empowered by Congress to tell U.S. farmers to whom they may or may not sell their commodities. A decision of this magnitude should be made jointly by the Congress and the President," Dole said.

The Kansas Senator said, "The pwoer to establish agricultural embargoes should not be given to the President for him to use as he pleases. The pwoers the President has at the present time from the Congress should be revoked. I believe embargoes on food should be entered into only with the specific consent of Congress."

Dole said, "It may not be possible to get legislation passed during this session of Congress. In 1981 a new farm bill will be written. That would be a good time for Congressmen and Senators from farm states to take a strong stand against agricultural embargoes."

"I plan to introduce into the 1981 farm bill the following actions;

1. Specific legislation to require that an agricultural embargo could not be imposed without the specific consent of Congress. The President could call for an embargo but it could not be implemented until approved by Congress.
2. Specific legislation to require that the cost of an agricultural embargo, if one were imposed by the President and the Congress, would have to be borne by all of our citizens. The price paid for America's foreign policy successes, failures, or stalemates must be fully shared by our 220 million residents--not borne by the small percentage who are farmers," Dole said.