

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
OCTOBER 13, 1980

CONTACT: KIM WELLS  
(913) 233-1203

DOLE SAYS 1981 FARM BILL VITAL TO FARMERS

FREDONIA, KAN. -- The 1981 farm bill will be vital to the economic health of agriculture and the family farm during the next four years, Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) said today in Fredonia.

"The 1977 farm bill expires next year," Dole said. "Major new farm legislation will be drafted and passed by the Congress in 1981 that will be in effect until 1985. The 1981 farm bill will be an important piece of legislation that will be of concern to all farmers.

"If I am re-elected to the U.S. Senate I will have the opportunity to effect the molding of the legislation as the number two ranking Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee. I plan to be actively involved in the 1981 farm bill, as I have every piece of farm legislation since 1961.

"I will consult the farm organizations in Kansas and farmers of both political parties for ideas on what should be in the 1981 bill. I am sure we can find ways to improve the farm price and income protection policies found in the 1977 act and make them more responsive to the needs of family farmers.

"I believe improvements can be made without abandoning the programs that have proved themselves in the past. I do believe, though, that many of the problems encountered by farmers with present farm legislation have come from the implementation of the 1977 law -- not the law itself."