

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE ASSAILS EFFORTS BY DEMOCRATS TO BLOCK CORRECTIONS ON '85 FARM BILL

Washington, DC -- With sign-up for 1986 farm programs due to begin on Monday, Senator Bob Dole has assailed efforts by Democrats to block adoption of technical corrections that would effectively clarify provisions of the new farm bill.

"We went through innumerable delays in getting the farm bill passed last year," explained Sen. Dole. "Now, when the time arrives to clarify and make technical corrections to that farm bill, we're held up again for no apparent reason other than politics."

Sen. Dole and farm state Republicans attempted today to bring up the "Food Security Improvements Act of 1986" - legislation which affects seven provisions of the 1985 farm bill - but were blocked by Senate Democrats led by Montana Sen. John Melcher and Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin.

The legislation affects the underplanting provision of the new farm bill, as well as sections concerning the Commodity Credit Corporation, a presidential special assistant for food assistance, the Targeted Export Assistance program, and hay and graze set-asides.

"These provisions are extremely time sensitive," explained Sen. Dole, "and farmers are waiting on us so they can begin their work. I am disappointed that some members are looking out for their own political interests rather than for the better interests of America's farmers."