

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE, ZORINSKY PUSH FOR GRAIN STORAGE SOLUTION

Washington, DC -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole and Nebraska Senator Edward Zorinsky met today with White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan to push for an Administration response to the impending grain storage crisis in the Midwest.

"We wanted to explore the possibility of heading off a corn storage crisis through White House action rather than by some sort of legislative program," said Sen. Dole following the meeting.

"In Kansas, our corn harvest is expected to set records - and in some parts of the state we'll have no where to store it," Sen. Dole said. "There are several ways to head off a storage crisis, and the best way would be for the Administration to implement an executive order."

Sen. Zorinsky has suggested legislation which would increase government payments for on-farm storage of corn from 26.5-cents per bushel to match local commercial storage rates.

According to Sen. Dole, the White House could issue an executive order boosting the rate for on-farm storage, bypassing the need for legislative action.

"Don Regan promised to take a close look at the plan, and based on the President's willingness to help farmers I would think we'll get a receptive ear," said Sen. Dole.

The Kansas corn harvest is projected to be 165 million bushels this fall. According to Dole, a shortage of corn storage facilities is anticipated in some areas of the state.