

*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*  
*Tuesday, February 6, 1996*

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## **FARM BILL**

**GIVE FARMERS CERTAINTY, SIMPLICITY, & FLEXIBILITY THEY NEED,**  
**PASS GROWTH-ORIENTED FARM BILL TO MEET CHALLENGES OF**  
**NEXT CENTURY; DOLE URGES DEMOCRATS TO END FILIBUSTER**

My message today is that America's farmers want and deserve certainty. And they want and deserve it now.

They are supported in this by our 50 governors--who just this morning unanimously passed a resolution calling for us to pass a farm bill without delay, and no later than February 15.

And in speaking to the governors this morning, President Clinton also spoke out for early action on farm legislation, saying that we had to "strike while the iron was hot."

Well, the iron is hot and the farmers are hot, and the farmers are getting hotter every day.

The farm bill we hope to pass has been subjected to 33 hearings. It has been endorsed overwhelmingly by nearly every major agricultural commodity group.

So we've had a bumper crop of pro-farm rhetoric, but we don't have a pro-farm bill.

On behalf of America's farmers, I ask them to pull the plug on their misguided farm bill filibuster.

The choice we face is clear.

Will we adopt a policy that fosters the future growth of America's number one industry? Or are we going to continue a farm policy that is the equivalent of driving a truck while looking in the rear view mirror? U.S. Agriculture is dynamic and growing. It is time for Washington to help foster this growth by implementing a simpler, more flexible and market based farm policy.

We have the opportunity today to adopt a farm policy that will help farmers and ranchers meet the challenges of the 21st century. The future for U.S. agriculture is extremely bright. But we must be prepared and part of the preparation is adopting a farm policy that is growth oriented. This means eliminating supply controls, providing farmers with full planting flexibility, a program which is simpler and more certain.

I urge all senators to vote yes on cloture, and to join in a bi-partisan effort to give America's farmers the certainty, simplicity, and flexibility they are asking for.

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\* Remarks delivered on Senate floor, approximately 3:55 p.m.