

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 9, 1961

From the Office of
Congressman Bob Dole (R. of Kansas)
244 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.
CApitol 4-3121, ext. 2715

Congressman Bob Dole of Kansas today received an official reply from Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, on Dole's urging for the Secretary to make a public pronouncement of his position on Dole's bill calling for increasing the support price for the 1961 wheat crop to not less than \$2.00 per bushel.

In a letter dated June 8, 1961, Freeman told Dole "...The latest supply and utilization estimates for wheat indicate there is no justification for making a substantial increase in the previously announced support level for the current crop."

Mr. Freeman stated this administration has given careful consideration to the support level under existing legislation providing for a level not in excess of 90% of parity nor less than 75% depending upon the supply percentage. He refused to state flatly he would oppose Dole's bill, but indicated the most effective means of improving the wheat situation is to obtain new legislation effective with the 1962 crop.

Dole has contended that wheat farmers should be accorded similar treatment for the 1961 wheat crop given other crops earlier this year.

"Since the Secretary refuses to use his authority to apply an increase in 1961 wheat supports representative of that given other crops, I will do my utmost to try to get the Agriculture Committee to consider my bill at the earliest possible time".

Dole said there are sizeable areas of Western Kansas where due to hail and disease, there will be no normal yield this year.