

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, June 29, 1961

From the Office of  
Congressman Bob Dole (R. of Kansas)  
244 House Office Building  
Washington 25, D. C.  
Capitol 4-3121, Ext. 2715

Bob Dole, Kansas Republican and member of the House Committee on Agriculture, stated today he would offer an Amendment in the House Agriculture Committee, to the Administration's Omnibus Bill which would, if adapted, make certain domestic growers of sugar beets in the United States be permitted to grow a portion of the sugar formerly supplied by Cuba.

Dole stated, "The Amendment is a simple one which amends existing law and provides three basic changes. First of all, it provides that the former Cuban sugar quota would be first allocated to United States growers to the extent of their productive capability with the remainder to be apportioned to friendly nations in accordance with the present law. Secondly, whenever the Secretary establishes restrictive proportionate shares (quotas), if and when a friendly regime takes over Cuba, he shall, insofar as practicable, protect the interests of old and potential new producers of sugar beets and sugar cane in the United States. Finally the Amendment provides it shall be effective with the 1962 crop."

Dole further stated, "Congress has been trying to write permanent legislation the last two years without success. Hearings have been held this year and Congressmen from sugar producing areas have met in an apparent unsuccessful effort to work out a satisfactory sugar bill. My proposal very simply provides United States areas which have the capability to produce sugar for the American market shall not be overlooked. Though there are no acreage restrictions now in effect and domestic growers may plant any amount of beets they desire, both present and potential new growers are hesitant to expand, and processors are reluctant to construct new plants unless they can be assured of some protection when Castro is dumped. Sugar legislation is important not only to the present 10 producing counties in Western Kansas but other Western Kansas counties and North Central Kansas counties where farmers are just waiting for permanent legislation."

Dole stated a similar amendment was adopted with bipartisan support in the Senate March 29, 1961, but was lost in a subsequent House-Senate Conference. Dole indicated he would offer his Amendment at the earliest possible time which could be today or after the July 4 Congressional recess.