

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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From the Office of  
Congressman Bob Dole  
Room 244 House Office Building  
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Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) said today that there is "little enthusiasm in or out of Congress for the Freeman farm program at this stage."

"Not a single witness, except for Secretary Freeman, and other Department of Agriculture officials, has done anything more than endorse the 'principle' of the bill", Dole said. "Such half-hearted support is indicative of coolness in both parties toward any farm program which calls for 'straight-jacket' controls, fines, jail and prison sentences for violation of its provisions and vast land-use programs which, if implemented, would greatly reduce the number of small farmers."

Dole, a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, said that, "anyone doubting the severity of controls of the unprecedented criminal penalties should simply read the 106 page document."

"My mail is running heavily against the bill", Dole reported. "Farmers generally indicate they are fed up with threats of this Administration that unless they accept the bill as is, all wheat and feed grain price supports will be discontinued and the Secretary of Agriculture will be permitted to dump up to 200 million bushels of wheat and 10 million tons of feed grain on the market as a means of further demoralizing prices."

"Farmers do not have a real choice", Dole said, "for the word 'choice' implies selection of one or more reasonable alternatives. It appears to me that wheat growers, feed grain producers and dairymen of the Midwest are being singled out as the 'whipping boys' under this proposal for, while they are being threatened with more controls, no attempts are made to alter the tobacco or cotton programs. Moreover, producers of flaxseed, soybeans, tung nuts, honey, and most other commodities apparently would continue to receive price supports without any government control over production."