FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From the Office of
Congressman Bob Dole
244 House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) has again appealed to Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman to allow wheat farmers who are participating in the Wheat and Feed Grain Programs and who planted winter barley, to subtract the acreage planted to barley from their feed grain base, rather than be required to make early disposition of the barley, to stay in compliance with the program.

Dole stated, "It appears legislative action may come too late and unless some such provision is made immediately, farmers will be faced with serious wind erosion problems which will result not only in a substantial loss of income to farmers but serious damage to thousands of acres of land." Dole also stated that he is already receiving widespread reports of "blowing dust" throughout western Kansas and if farmers are now required to dispose of planted winter barley the blowing situation will be seriously aggravated.

Dole stated he had appealed to the Secretary early last August on the basis that the 1962 Feed Grain Program was broad enough to permit feed grain farmers to substitute barley for corn and grain sorghums in the 1962 program. Under Secretary of Agriculture, Charles Murphy, did not concur in Dole's opinion, but stated that now he feels there is even more justification for requesting relief at this time.

"Farmers of western Kansas are not asking special consideration. They are justifiably concerned over the possibility of the ever present threat of dust storms. Requiring planted winter barley to be destroyed would be disastrous in many areas," Dole asserted.

Dole cited numerous provisions in the "Agricultural Act of 1961" to Freeman which he believes are authority for making interchange in the programs possible.

Dole voted for legislation on the Floor of the House to accomplish this last year, and stated if the leadership would call up the bill for consideration again he would certainly support it.