

NEWS RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF
CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
JUNE 25, 1962

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) said today that as a result of the House defeat of the Administration farm bill the responsibility is now upon the majority leadership to come up with a revised measure which will be acceptable to farmers and to the Congress.

A majority of the House made it clear that they would not approve any measure calling for such sweeping controls as were proposed by the Administration. The way in which the majority leadership rebuffed attempts to improve the measure contributed to its final defeat. In discussing the measure during debate on the House Floor, Dole said:

"The Kansas wheat farmer is like most farmers, he likes to make a living. He also likes freedom and I think this is the crux of the entire matter....The farmers in Kansas farm 29 percent, or less, of their cropland. Let some of the people in the consumer areas go to their drugstores, their grocery stores and factories and tell the owners to board up 71 percent of their drugstores, grocery stores, or 71 percent of their factories, and try to make a living. This is what the administration is asking the wheat farmer of Western Kansas to do. We are to be happy; we are to accept another 10 percent cut, plus an additional cut of 1.3 percent which will be allocated to other states because of a change in the base period. We took a 10 percent cut last year....

"In addition, I live in a feed grain area and in a cattle area where farmers like to raise cattle and feed grains to feed their cattle. They are being asked to take a 20-percent reduction in this commodity. It does not take any mental giant or economist to figure who takes the brunt of the farm bill here. It is the midwestern farmer.

"Here is another thing that has not been pointed out. This is not temporary legislation; this is permanent legislation. This could go on for as long as the farmer could stand it, whether it be 1 year, 2 years, or 10 years."