

column mailed ²¹
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NEWS from
U.S. Senator
Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

FROM THE NATION'S CAPITOL
BY SENATOR BOB DOLE

THE TRADE ACT

Congressional passage of the Trade Act late in 1974 should be tremendously beneficial to Kansas and the Nation as a whole. It is vital that we keep our agricultural markets strong and this new law should help both to maintain the markets and expand employment and industry in the State.

Important to Kansas

With 110,000 people employed on Kansas farms, the importance of agricultural exports to our State cannot be over-stressed. Kansas farmers produced over \$4.4 billion worth of agricultural products for sale in 1973, the fifth largest amount of any state. For the year ending June 30, 1974, it is estimated that over \$1 billion worth of farm goods were shipped overseas from Kansas, about one-fourth of the State's production. Kansas also ranks fourth in terms of total U.S. agricultural exports, and first in wheat exports.

While benefits to people who produce the farm exports are direct and obvious, the exports also benefit people working in agriculture-related industries and businesses. One out of every five jobs in private employment is related to agriculture in some way. Expansion of our exports will encourage the growth of new industry in Kansas, and this means more jobs for working people.

Relief from Imports

Another important aspect of the new law is the extensive provision for relief from imports. Provision has been made for assistance to workers, farms and entire communities that could suffer from import competition.

We need to maintain a high level of exports and develop new markets for two reasons. First, we need to reduce the deficit in our balance of trade resulting from oil imports. Second, we must maintain an incentive for producers. Keeping a high level of farm and industrial exports from Kansas should be beneficial to farmers, workers and all Kansans.

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