



NEWS from
**U.S. Senator
Bob Dole**

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 1975

137

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE APPROVES DOLE NUTRITION BILL

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The Senate Agriculture Committee has adopted provisions of a bill sponsored by Senator Bob Dole which extends all current child nutrition programs for two years and permits Kansas schools and day care centers to receive direct cash payments for use in the school lunch program and other child feeding programs.

The Committee action came as the Agriculture Committee, of which Dole is the ranking Republican, completed three days of consideration of comprehensive child nutrition legislation.

Under the bill as reported by the Committee, Kansas schools would continue to receive cash payments for use in the school lunch and school breakfast programs instead of donated commodities. Kansas is the only state presently receiving cash as the exclusive means of federal support for school food programs since the state does not have a commodity distribution system. The bill extends the cash option to day care programs and Headstart centers in Kansas, thus increasing the level of federal support to these institutions.

Dole said, "The initial experience in Kansas strongly indicates that Kansas schools have been able to realize substantial administrative cost savings -- an estimated \$85,000 last year -- while continuing to make economical bulk purchases of a wide variety of nutritious food. Not only does the cash program provide nutritious foods, it also helps stimulate local economies and assists small businessmen and producers who provide the food to local child nutrition programs."

Among the child nutrition programs continued by the bill are the school lunch program, school breakfast program, summer feeding and day care program, and the supplemental feeding program for women, infants and children.