



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE AMENDMENT ON GRAIN INSPECTION ADOPTED

Washington, D.C. ----- AN AMENDMENT BY SENATOR BOB DOLE TODAY WAS ADOPTED AS PART OF THE FARM BILL TO REMEDY PROBLEMS EXISTING IN THE FEDERAL GRAIN INSPECTION SERVICE. DOLE'S STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

On March 30th, 1977 the Senate approved by a vote of 93-0 a bill to eliminate problems that exist in the Federal Grain Inspection Service. That legislation if enacted, would save American farmers a total of \$5.3 and would save Kansas farmers a total of \$.5 million in user fees this year.

This legislation is urgently needed. We are moving into wheat harvest in the Midwest. Wheat prices are at the lowest level they have been for several years. They are well below \$2.00 per bushel compared to over \$4.00 per bushel at the start of the season.

Yet we have a Federal Grain Inspection System that further reduces the price of wheat received by farmers. The legislation Congress approved last year requires that Federal Grain Inspection supervision expenses be paid by user fees. That means that the cost of Federal supervision will be passed directly onto farmers. It will result in a lower price for wheat to farmers at a time when prices are already unacceptably low.

In spite of the need for action on this legislation, the other body has taken no action. It is my feeling that we should adopt this legislation as an amendment of the farm bill. This action will allow us to go to Conference with the House of Representatives, and hopefully thereby get early approval of this legislation by Congress.

This legislation also addresses a number of other problems that developed in the Grain Inspection Bill we approved last year. It alleviates the record-keeping requirements imposed on local grain elevators. It provides a mechanism for more realistically addressing the conflict of interest questions that the bill last year addressed.

I believe the adoption of this amendment will allow us to get early consideration of the Grain Inspection Bill in the House of Representatives and will allow us to provide relief to farmers and local elevators at an earlier time.