

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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## DOLE MOVES TO HEAD OFF COSTLY DELAY OF FARM BILL EXTENSION

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) today urged Senate Democrats not to play politics by stalling efforts to prevent costly dairy and food stamp provisions from taking effect next week.

"If we don't extend the current dairy program before next Tuesday, it will cost the Treasury an additional \$7 million a day in higher priced milk purchases. I hope we don't set an expensive and partisan precedent for the upcoming consideration of the farm bill on October 15."

Dole's remarks followed the refusal of Senate Democrats to allow passage of legislation extending provisions of the current dairy price support program and the Puerto Rico food stamp program scheduled to expire at the end of the present Fiscal Year on Monday, September 30. In the absence of Congressional action, the dairy support will increase under permanent statutes by nearly 40 percent -- from \$11.60 per hundredweight to an estimated \$16.22. According to the USDA, this would add an additional \$2.5 billion to the cost of the dairy program in Fiscal Year 1986, or about \$7 million per day.

In addition, authorization for the cash-basis food stamp program in Puerto Rico will expire on Tuesday, forcing local authorities to either convert to a non-cash system or face a lawsuit. Failure of Congress to act will imperil the distribution of \$69 million in cash payments to needy recipients in that country.