

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE URGES PRESIDENT TO MAKE AG TRADE AN ISSUE WITH CANADIANS

Washington, DC -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) is urging the Administration to make agricultural trade a top issue for discussion when President Reagan meets with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in Ottawa next month.

"I have some apprehension about the state of agricultural trade between our two countries," Sen. Dole wrote in a letter to the President. "While there have been several recent bilateral trade dispute, none of which have been settled very amicably in these past months, you should have the issue of trade in general and agricultural trade in particular high on your agenda for discussion with Prime Minister Mulroney."

Dole, in his letter, reminded the President that earlier this month the Canadian Import Tribunal imposed an 85-cent per-bushel import fee on U.S. corn after the agency Revenue Canada determined American corn was being "subsidized" through different farm programs.

At the time, Sen. Dole called the Canadians' decision "ill-advised" and urged the Administration to explore possible retaliatory actions. "It seems only fair for us to look at restricting some of their exports to the U.S.," he said.

In his letter to Reagan, Sen. Dole reiterated U.S.D.A. Sec. Dick Lyng's call for "'appropriate actions and measures' to offset the Canadians' unfair action against U.S. corn exports". Dole's letter to Reagan was delivered today.