

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE URGES CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Washington, DC -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole is urging the Administration to continue its commitment to the Export Enhancement Program (EEP) mandated by the 1985 Farm Bill.

In cosponsoring a Senate resolution today, Sen. Dole said it is the intent of Congress "that the Secretary of Agriculture use his existing authority under the Commodity Credit Corporation's charter act to ensure adequate funding - either with cash or in-kind commodities - for the EEP through fiscal year 1990."

Sen. Dole noted the USDA's EEP initiatives since enactment of the Farm Bill will soon reach the maximum, specified funding level of \$1.5 billion. "Both the House and Senate trade bills could provide an additional \$1 billion and extend the EEP through 1990, but few of us can be sure when or even if the trade bill will be enacted," said Sen. Dole.

"Maintaining the EEP also gives us another bargaining chip at the next round of GATT negotiations," Sen. Dole said. "If we don't continue using this valuable tool, we'll end up sending the wrong signal to our competitors who are trying to take unfair advantage of American farmers."

The Senate resolution was also cosponsored by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum.