

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOLE GETS ACTION ON CRP PAYMENTS KANSAS FARMERS WILL SHARE IN \$1.5 BILLION

WASHINGTON -- KANSAS SENATOR BOB DOLE TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT USDA HAS APPROVED \$1.5 BILLION IN CASH PAYMENTS TO PRODUCERS ENROLLED IN THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN HELD UP SINCE OCTOBER 1 PENDING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON DEFICIT REDUCTION MATTERS.

DOLE HAS BEEN PRESSURING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE CLAYTON YEUTTER AND OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET DIRECTOR RICHARD DARMAN TO IMMEDIATELY MAKE CRP PAYMENTS IN FULL TO PRODUCERS.

"THIS IS GOOD NEWS FOR MANY KANSAS FARMERS WHO HAVE BEEN ANXIOUSLY AWAITING CRP PAYMENTS SINCE THE FIRST OF OCTOBER. IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO FARMERS SINCE CRP PAYMENTS OFTEN CONSTITUTE A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THEIR TOTAL INCOME," SAID DOLE.

EARLIER CONCERNS HAD BEEN NOTED THAT CRP CONTRACTS COULD BE SUBJECT TO A SEQUESTER IF CONGRESS DOES NOT ACT ON A BUDGET RECONCILIATION BILL. HOWEVER, USDA AND OMB AGREED WITH DOLE THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS WERE AVAILABLE FROM UNSPENT CRP APPROPRIATIONS TO ALLOW PAYMENTS TO BE MADE IN FULL TO PRODUCERS.