FARM BILL

THESE DAYS, EVERYONE SEEMS TO BE ASKING ME IF AGRICULTURE WILL DO ITS PART TO HELP BALANCE THE FEDERAL BUDGET. I DON'T NEED TO REMIND YOU THAT AMERICA'S **FARMERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED** TO REDUCING THE DEFICIT TIME

AND TIME AGAIN -- ESPECIALLY OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS. I BELIEVE THAT AGRICULTURE IS WILLING TO DO ITS FAIR SHARE, AS LONG AS EVERY OTHER PROGRAM -- FROM A TO Z -- IS WILLING TO SHOULDER PART OF THE BUDGET BURDEN.

AS WE WRITE THE 1995

FARM BILL, THERE ARE A FEW TOP PRIORITIES THAT I'LL BE FOCUSING ON. IN MY VIEW, WE MUST PROVIDE FARMERS WITH SOME ASSURANCE OF LONG-TERM VIABILITY. CONGRESS **NEEDS TO FOCUS ON BOOSTING** THE FARMERS' BOTTOM LINE. I **BELIEVE WE CAN START BY** LETTING FARMERS FARM. IN

OTHER WORDS, REDUCE THE
REGULATORY, TAX AND
PAPERWORK BURDENS THAT
FARMERS DEAL WITH EVERY
DAY.

WE MUST ALSO CONSIDER
HOW TO PROMOTE U.S. FARM
PRODUCTS IN WORLD MARKETS.
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, AMERICAN

FARMERS ARE THE MOST COMPETITIVE IN THE WORLD -- IF THEY ARE ON A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD. NO ONE KNOWS THIS BETTER THAN FARM BUREAU MEMBERS. TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF OUR NEW TRADE OPPORTUNITIES, WE NEED TO **GET MORE "BANG FOR THE BUCK" FROM OUR EXPORT-**

EXPANSION PROGRAMS. BY
ENCOURAGING VALUE-ADDED
EXPORTS, WE CAN ENHANCE
RURAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND
STIMULATE RURAL
EMPLOYMENT.

LET ME ALSO SAY THAT I

AM COMMITTED TO KEEPING OUR

FARMERS THE MOST EFFICIENT

AND PROGRESSIVE IN THE WORLD. TO DO THAT, WE NEED TO EXPAND THE MONEY SPENT ON AGRICULTURE RESEARCH. IF WE HAVE TO REDUCE FARM PROGRAM SPENDING IN ORDER TO FUND RESEARCH, THEN I BELIEVE THAT'S A TRADE WORTH MAKING.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

I WANT TO COMMEND THE KANSAS FARM BUREAU FOR MAKING PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS ONE OF ITS TOP ISSUES. AS CONGRESS ADDRESSES THE **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT,** WETLANDS REFORM AND OTHER PRIVATE PROPERTY ISSUES, I

BELIEVE WE SHOULD SEND A VERY CLEAR SIGNAL TO THE PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THIS LEGISLATION. THE MESSAGE IS THAT THE FEDERAL **GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT BE IN** THE BUSINESS OF TAKING PRIVATE PROPERTY. ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE 104TH CONGRESS, I INTRODUCED S. 22

THE PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

ACT OF 1995. THIS LEGISLATION

REQUIRES AGENCIES TO

CONDUCT TAKINGS IMPACT

ASSESSMENTS WHEN CREATING

POLICY AND REGULATIONS.

I AM NOW WORKING WITH
SENATORS BROWN, HATCH,
GRAMM, SHELBY, NICKLES AND
OTHERS TO CRAFT AN OMNIBUS

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS BILL, WHICH COMBINES SEVERAL CURRENT PROPOSALS. WE HOPE TO INTRODUCE THIS LEGISLATION IN THE NEAR **FUTURE AND BEGIN HEARINGS IN** THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

CONCLUSION

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT,
REPUBLICANS HAVE A CLEAR
AGENDA. AS ALWAYS, I LOOK
FORWARD TO WORKING WITH
THE KANSAS FARM BUREAU TO
ACHIEVE OUR GOALS.