Dear Senator Dole,

I was very distressed to see that you voted against three amendments by Quitts and McFerrin concerning school lunch programs. As a participant in the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health, I learned that a very large number of Kansas counties participate in neither commodities distribution nor food stamps.

Millions of people in the United States are today starving to death on subsistence diets that are nutritionally deficient. Once President Nixon did not act upon the recommendations of his White House Conference, except for expansion of food stamps and schools lunches through Secretary Hardin, we must turn to Congress for any recourse.

Your negative votes stand in the way of adequately feeding this nation's hungry. Fortunately, the measures passed anyway. I do hope you will reconsider your position. When
Senator McNown toured the hungry South a year ago. Some of the poor remember visits and promises by Eleanor Roosevelt twenty years ago. The time to act is now.

I am in favor of increased aid to education without constraints of prayer for the administration to deal with militants against the approval of Judge Carswell because of his record on civil rights, and against expansion of the Safeguard ABM, which is inflationary—of the Labor-Health Bill was.

Dincerely,
March 9, 1970

7903 Grant #6
Overland Park, Kansas 66204

Dear [Name]:

This will acknowledge your recent letter in which you expressed your distress over my voting against three amendments by Senator Javits and Senator McGovern concerning school lunch programs.

I am a member of the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee which held extensive hearings on Senator Talmadge's school lunch bill. Careful consideration was given in the hearings on this bill to providing a workable and fiscally responsible expansion of the school lunch program.

The Talmadge bill, as reported from the committee, met our goals of both expansion and responsibility. The amendments offered by Senator Javits and Senator McGovern, I felt, were unrealistic and may jeopardize the effectiveness of the expanded program. It is one thing to spend considerable time in committee exploring alternatives and means of expanding programs such as the school lunch. It is quite another matter to offer popular but unrealistic and hastily discussed amendments on the Senate floor.

As you mentioned, people remember the promises that have been made, but they benefit from programs which are put into action. I am enclosing a reprint from the Congressional Record which may be of interest.

Thanks for taking the time to inform me of your views. Let me know whenever I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD:mb
Enclosure