

BOB DOLE
KANSAS

STANDING COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
RULES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 1st, 1987

Mr. Bert W. Hawkins
Administrator, APHIS
Department of Agriculture
312-E Administration Building
Washington, D.C. 20250

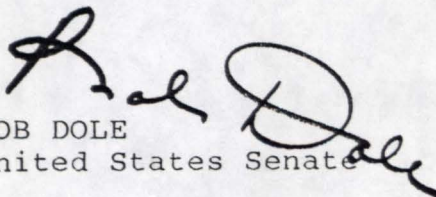
Dear Mr. Hawkins:

I have received several comments from individuals who feel the Secretary of Agriculture should use the authority conferred in the Animal Welfare Act to extend coverage of animals to include mice, rats and birds.

While I do not suggest reducing ongoing inspection of dogs, cats and primates to accomplish extended coverage, I would appreciate your assessment of the cost and implications of including these animals in the administration of the Animal Welfare Act if inspections were targeted to institutions currently subject to inspection by Veterinary Services. A further estimate of the cost and implications if all research facilities using rats, mice and birds were included, would be of value.

It is not my intention that this review delay the ongoing rulemaking process on the animal welfare legislation passed as part of the 1985 Farm Bill. I would appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your earliest possible response.

Sincerely,


BOB DOLE
United States Senate