

8-24-1961

Wheat Referendum

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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Statement of Senator Mike Mansfield (D. Montana)

Wheat Referendum--August 24 - 1961

This is ^{Sen.} Mike Mansfield, ~~your United States Senator~~, and I am taking this opportunity to make a personal appeal to the farmers in the great State of Montana and the midwest. On August 24, farmers throughout the Nation will be given an opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" on the 1961 wheat referendum. It is in your own best interest to vote "Yes".

The agricultural economy of Montana and its neighboring States is now plagued with a staggering drought, the most serious in years. It will be difficult for many of our small family farmers, a positive referendum vote will at least mean better prices for the wheat producers of the area. If quotas are disapproved it will mean a severe drop in the price of wheat. A vote in favor of quotas will mean a guaranteed price of approximately \$2.00 per bushel.

The Congress has just completed extensive consideration of the farm program and we have sent to the President a new bill, now signed into law. During this debate it was very apparent that something must be done to help increase farm income, reduce government costs created by excessive surpluses and at the same time stabilize the farm economy so basic to the welfare and security of our Nation. A "Yes" vote on the wheat referendum will help to achieve these goals.

As your Senator and a Montanan who is vitally interested in the economic well-being of the small family farmer I urge that the wheat referendum be given a big "Yes" vote on Thursday, August 24th.