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Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "ASUM president opposes appointment of Butz to agricultural post" (1971). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 25519. <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/25519>

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ASUM PRESIDENT OPPOSES
APPOINTMENT OF BUTZ
TO AGRICULTURAL POST

MISSOULA--

The student body president at the University of Montana has written Sen. Mike Mansfield urging Mansfield to join Sen. Lee Metcalf in opposing confirmation of Dr. Earl Butz as Secretary of Agriculture.

John Christensen, Hobson, president of the Associated Students at UM, told Mansfield confirmation of Butz is "not in the best interests of the Montana farmer, the Montana consumer, nor the Montana student."

"Many of our students depend directly or indirectly upon agriculture to support their educational endeavors," Christensen wrote. "Disastrous agricultural policies can terminate their academic careers--and there is every indication Dr. Butz would pursue policies first initiated under Ezra Taft Benson when Dr. Butz was part of the Administration.

"All students are consumers, dependent upon the Department of Agriculture for wholesome, healthy foods," Christensen continued. "At a time/ ^(when) Dr. Butz could have privately taken action to ensure adequate inspection procedures, three Ralston-Purina plants failed to meet minimum government standards.

"The Department of Agriculture should be headed by a man of vision who will initiate policies to support the family farmer. The Department of Agriculture should be headed by a man who will ensure aggressive food inspection standards.

"Dr. Butz is not that man," Christensen concluded.

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