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BOB DOLE 1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

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RELEASE, Wednesday, May 5, 1965

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) introduced a bill today to amend the Veterans Pension Act to give eligible veterans the opportunity to elect payment of pension under either the provisions of Title 38 of the United States Code in effect on June 30, 1960, or as amended by the Veterans Pension Act of 1959 (PL 86-211), whichever provides the greater benefit.

Dole explained that those veterans who had not reached the age of 65 on July 1, 1960, have been forced to come under the provisions of Public Law 86-211 and thereby deprived of electing pension benefits made available to those who were eligible before that date. In many cases, those required to come under Public Law 86-211 would receive greater benefits if permitted to elect coverage under pension laws applying prior to July 1, 1960.

Existing laws concerning non-service pensions discriminate against one age group of World War I Veterans by denying them pension benefits equal to those awarded many who served with them at the same time and under the same circumstances. Dole stated that his bill would remove this discrimination and permit all veterans eligible to receive non-service pensions to elect to receive benefits under whichever law would give them the higher benefit. "Veterans in the same War should receive the same treatment," Dole concluded.