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FROM THE OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR BOB DOLE

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 3 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole said he will support Senator John Williams (R-Del.) Tuesday in opposing pay raises recommended by former President Johnson for Congress, the Judiciary and top personnel in the Executive branch of government.

Senator Williams, who introduced a resolution Jan. 15 expressing disapproval of the proposed 40 to 60 percent salary increase, will lead the Senate debate on the issue Tuesday.

Dole's statement opposing the pay raise follows:

"I am opposed to the federal pay raise, as recommended by the Kappel Commission and submitted to Congress earlier this year by President Johnson. I opposed establishment of the Commission last year because it was my feeling that Congress itself should determine its own salary scales, not some presidential commission.

"For those of us not in a 'wealthy class', a cost-of-living increase from time to time can be justified, partially in order to attract more people into positions of responsibility with the government. I cannot believe, however, that raising salaries by 40 to 60 percent at one time reflects any legitimate cost-of-living increase. Cabinet members' salaries, for example, would jump from \$35,000 to \$60,000 a year, hardly in line with the current cost of living or with the average salary increases for similar jobs in business and industry.

"While some increase at this time may be justified, this is not the appropriate time for such extensive salary increases.

"The American dollar is still not out of danger. The financial position of this Government is not under control. We face huge deficits. And we do not have, nor do we foresee in the immediate months ahead, a balanced budget for our government.

"Let me add, any kind of salary raise at this time would have to be financed with borrowed money on which we would pay six to seven percent interest.

"Our first priority should not be to increase our own salaries, but rather to demonstrate to the American people that we can and will control expenditures of this government by showing that we in Congress are willing to practice economy first with ourselves."

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