

FROM: OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR BOB DOLE  
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510  
(202) 225-6521

42

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

WASHINGTON, D.C. MARCH 7 -- U. S. Senator Bob Dole has co-sponsored a bill to enable the young, the elderly, military personnel and the handicapped to travel at reduced fares on the nation's airlines.

Dole said, "This bill for the first time will give specific legislative authorization to the CAB to extend half-price airfares to these groups on a stand-by basis during off peak-travel hours."

"The airlines," said Dole, "will not be required to put these reduced rate fares into effect, but will have a legislative basis to do so, thus providing the kind of flexibility that is inherent in our competitive society."

He said, "Economically, the airlines would benefit. Such a proposal would not reduce airline revenue, but would increase it by permitting airlines to fill otherwise empty seats with paying passengers on a stand-by basis."

This bill, introduced by Senator Charles Percy, (R-Ill.) was in response to a recent decision by a CAB examiner to do away with half-price youth fares. Dole said, "The lower fares should not only be retained for those between 12 and 21 but extended to the elderly, military personnel and the handicapped who would be able to travel at off-peak travel hours."

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