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WASHINGTON, D.C. Oct. 3---U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today said enactment of a civil service retirement bill "is an overdue financial boost to thousands of retired and disabled federal employees."

Dole said major provisions of the bill are:

- *Adds 1% to cost-of-living increases for annuitants;
- *Increases employee deductions from 6½% to 7%, effective January 1, 1970;
- *Increases annuities by basing average income on the highest three-year period of earnings, rather than the current five years;
- *Improves survivor benefits for employees and retired disabled employees who die;
- *Exempts up to \$3000 in annuities from federal income tax, and
- *Permits accumulated sick leave to be computed in annuities.

"Inflation metes out its most debilitating effects to retired persons who are forced to live on fixed income with no protection against the decreasing purchasing power of the dollar," Dole said in a statement in the Senate.

"After a lifetime of work, many are hard pressed to exist on a pension they had anticipated would allow them to live adequately in their later years.

"To date, federal law has not permitted retired federal employees to keep pace with the cost of living," he added. "This bill would adjust benefits so that retired civil servants can maintain a more acceptable standard of living.

"If enacted, the bill will be a forthright attempt to meet the needs not only of about 800,000 retired persons, but will also help anticipate some retirement problems of about three million people who are currently working for the federal government."