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FOR RELEASE AFTER 12 NOON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1969

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 8 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today urged
Congress to "act promptly to reform the draft law, a source of con-
tinuing disillusionment and agitation on college campuses."

"Young men of draft age think of conscription as an institution
which they cannot justify and are unable to change," Dole said. "It
has a disruptive influence on a crucial period of their lives which
can no longer be tolerated."

In testimony before a House Armed Services subcommittee consid-
ering President Nixon's draft reforms, the Senator added, "The time is
long past to deal with the inequities and outrageous abuses of the
Selective Service system. It is unrealistic to expect the draft to
be abandoned altogether at this point, but certainly it can be made
more fair and orderly."

"The President's plan for reform including a youngest-first order
of call, limited vulnerability for draft age men and a random selection
system is a massive effort in this direction," he said.

Terming "highly important" the provision to make 19 year olds the
prime age group for the draft, the Senator said, "Presently, a young
man can live from age 19 to 25 uncertain how to plan for the future
because he might be drafted. The Nixon plan would reduce the anxiety
and uncertainty from seven years to only 12 months of draft vulnera-
bility whether at age 19 or after college."

Noting the present law allows some youth to avoid the draft
through discriminatory deferments, Dole said, "Adoption of the Pres-
ident's plan would guarantee that all males will be treated equally."

On student deferments in the Nixon random selection procedure,
Dole said, "No student could escape the pool of potential draftees.
Upon reaching age 19 or 20, the student would be given his sequence
number, deferred until completion of undergraduate education or a year
of graduate work, and then his name is returned to the pool."

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