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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. June 27 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today called for passage of the Foreign Military Sales Act which includes the controversial Cooper-Church amendment. Dole, speaking in Washington, said that after seven weeks of debate and amendment, "The act is not now a repudiation of the President, nor does it attempt to relegate Executive branch functions to the Congress."

Dole said he favors the act because the Byrd amendment "Forecloses any possibility that shadow would be cast on the President's powers in this critical area of his responsibilities." He further stated that "By repealing the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, the act removes whatever chance there might be for further abuse of this ill-considered piece of our former policy in Indochina."

Dole called the extended debate on the measure "extremely valuable to Senate and public understanding of United States goals in Southeast Asia," and he predicted overwhelming Senate approval.

Dole expressed his hope that "The House of Representatives will agree so the President would sign the bill into law at the earliest possible date."