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WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 5, 1971 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) has joined as a cosponsor to a bill designed to make military retirement pay more equitable.

Since 1958, military retirement pay adjustments have been based on the consumer price index. Prior to that time, retirement pay was recomputed whenever there was a change in the active duty basic pay. Under the earlier system, every man of equal grade and length of service received the same retirement pay.

The bill, "Uniformed Services Retirement Pay Equalization Act," would correct present system inequities. The inequities develop because active duty pay increases faster than the consumer price index. This means that a man who retires more recently, generally receives more retirement pay than his counterpart who retired some years before. As an example, the pay of a major with 24 years of service who retires after December 31, 1970, is 50 per cent greater than that of his counterpart who retired before June 1, 1958.

This legislation would repeal sections of law that provide for adjusting retirement pay on the basis of increases in the consumer price index and would provide for recomputation of retired or retainer pay to reflect increases in active duty basic pay.