



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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## ALASKAN PIPELINE BILL PASSES

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Commenting on today's final Senate passage of the Alaska Pipeline bill, Senator Bob Dole called it "a long overdue and vitally needed step toward dealing with America's energy crisis."

The bill authorizes construction of the \$4.5 billion, 800-mile pipeline to make some 10 billion barrels of Alaskan crude oil available for use in the United States.

"The pipeline was always important to our country," Dole said. "But the emergency produced by the disruption of Middle Eastern oil supplies makes it all the more crucial to assuring adequate energy for American agriculture, industry, business and families."

The bill also contains an amendment sponsored by Senator Dole in the Senate which affects some 97% of the oil wells in Kansas. These so-called "stripper wells" produce less than 10 barrels of oil daily, but the 350,000 of them nationwide account for better than 10% of total domestic production. The amendment would free the oil from these wells from price controls, thus providing greater incentives to keep them in operation as costs rise and to expand their production. Dole said, "a marginal well produces only a few barrels a day, but they add up to a significant portion of our energy output. And the operation of each well means just that much less imported foreign oil to pay for abroad, to worry about and depend upon."

The bill now goes to the President for signature.