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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

Joe Reppert Press Secretary

FOR RELEASE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1973
A.M.

DOLE CONSIDERING GI BILL AMENDMENT TO COVER VETERAN TUITION COSTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole said through his Washington office that he is giving consideration to possible sponsorship, with other Senators, of comprehensive legislation to improve veterans' education benefits.

Dole said he saw a need for legislation to provide tuition assistance for Vietnam-era veterans. World War II and Korean conflict veterans received such assistance, but there were some reports of abuse of the benefit system and so tuition support is no longer available. Dole said he thought a program allowing the Veterans Administration to pay for tuition costs over and above statutory minimum would help eliminate the potential for abuse. Such a formula, allowing the VA to pay up to \$600 in tuition expenses, after the veteran himself had paid approximately the first \$400, is now under consideration.

Such legislation, said Dole, might also include provisions to:

- --extend the present 8 year eligibility period, during which a veteran may make use of his benefits, to 10 years.
- --increase the subsistance allowance 10 percent or more, Veterans undertaking an educational program are presently eligible for a subsistence allowance.
- --extend the 36 month entitlement period, where necessary, to permit a veteran to complete an ongoing educational program

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