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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

nov. 25

(R.-Kans.)

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

Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

DOLE PROPOSES HELP FOR SMALL RADIO BROADCASTERS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole has introduced an amendment to aid small radio broadcasters and rural listeners who would be adversely affected by the emergency, year-round Daylight Savings Time bill (S.2702).

The amendment directs the Federal Communications Commission to allow standard AM stations not currently eligible for presunrise operating authority to go on the air an hour prior to local sunrise.

Describing the problem, Dole said, "small radio stations which broadcast only during daylight hours would be kept off the air some months until nearly 9 A.M. with winter daylight time.

"The early morning hours are the most important times for many of their listeners to get news of weather forecasts, school closings, stock warnings, and other important matters. These people get up early and need to have the up-to-the-minute information that only their local radio stations can provide. Lives, businesses and the safety of children and others can depend on this news.

"If the energy emergency makes winter daylight time necessary, it should not have the side effect of limiting the quality of quantity of radio broadcast information in rural America."

In addition to the Kansas Senator, the amendment is sponsored by Senators Hugh Scott (R-Pa.), Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), and Jesse Helms (R-N.C.).