



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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VETERANS' BILL PASSES SENATE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The Senate today passed a comprehensive veterans education bill that contains many items similar to a bill initially introduced by Senator Bob Dole. Today's measure contained tuition payments of up to \$720 per year, an 18.2% increase in monthly assistance rates, extension of the eligibility period from 8 to 10 years, and extension of the entitlement period from 36 to 45 months.

"I believe these improvements in the veterans' education program are long overdue," Dole said. "I hope the final passage of this bill can be accomplished as quickly as possible by the Congress." The bill will now go to a conference to resolve Senate and House differences.

Dole's amendment to improve the farm cooperative training program under the G.I. Bill was withdrawn after instructions to the Administrator of the Veterans Administration to improve the program were included in the Committee report, at the request of Dole. Another measure, jointly introduced by Dole and Senator Henry Bellmon (R-Okla.) to put veterans educational benefits on a cost-of-living escalator, was defeated by a vote of 54 to 35.