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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1974

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DOLE URGES VETERANS' COMMITTEE TO PUSH FOR COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION BILL

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole has sent a letter to the Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Senator Vance Hartke, urging "that a veterans' education bill be reported with the provisions of the original Senate bill, and that our Senate conferees be instructed to press as firmly as possible for all provisions, including the much needed tuition assistnace program."

In an unusual point of order the House rejected the original House-Senate conference report of a veterans' education act. Since that time, the House has passed another bill, deleting many of the important provisions that had been included in both the original Senate bill and the conference report. It is now incumbent upon the Senate to pass a bill and return to a House-Senate Conference.

Dole, who was an original sponsor of a bill similar to the original Senate bill, urged that tuition benefits, 23 percent increase in monthly assistance to many veterans, and the loan provision be included in the new Senate bill. These provisions were included in the previous Senate version but are not in the current House bill. Dole said that with the help of Senate conferees and those of us who have been so deeply involved in passage of a veterans education bill, at least some of these important provisions could be reported by the next House-Senate Conference Committee.

"Hundreds of Kansas Vietnam veterans have contacted me to express their frustration and anger over the delay," Dole said, "and their attitudes have begun to show cynicism and disgust with the manner in which) 6ngress has treated such an essential program for their readjustment to civilian life." He added that prompt Senate action could "restore faith in their govern-

ment among those who have so faithfully served our nation."