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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R _Kane)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1978 CONTACT: BILL KATS 202-224-8947

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DOLE SAYS HOUSE INDEXING MEASURE DOESN'T GO FAR ENOUGH

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that although the House's decision yesterday to index the capital gains tax was encouraging, it didn't go far enough towards providing the tax relief Americans need.

In a statement on the Senate floor, Dole said the vote in the House approving indexing as a method of fighting inflation indicates that the public and Congress understand and support the concept of indexing.

"We need to adopt comprehensive indexing in our tax laws," he said, "I intend to offer such a plan in the Senate Finance Committee, and if necessary, on the Senate floor."

As evidence of public support for indexing, Dole cited a recent Roper poll that indicated that the public prefers indexing by a 57 percent to 32 percent margin over the periodic tax cuts Congress annually legislates to compensate for "taxflation."

"Indexing is the way of the future," Dole said. "There is no tax reform that is more important to achieve, easier to accomplish, and fairer in its impact than income tax indexation.

" I believe that indexing will act to hold down federal spending, as it has in Canada. It will also help cut our double-digit inflation rate, as it has in Australia."

Last spring Dole introduced a comprehensive indexing proposal, designed to compensate for tax inflation in the three major federal taxes -- income, gift and estate.

The proposal, known as the Tax Indexation Act (S.2738) would index the significant fixed dollar amounts used in determining individual income tax rates, exemptions, deductions and credits. The bill also contains a provision similar to the capital gains indexing proposal adopted by the House.