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DOLE AMENDMENT ON CAMBODIAN REFUGEES CLEARS HOUSE

Senator Bob Dole today expressed pleasure at approval by the House of Representatives of the Conference Report containing his Amendment to permit 15,000 Cambodian Refugees to emigrate to the United States during the next two fiscal years.

The House defeated, by an overwhelming vote of 231 to 105, an effort to strike the Dole Amendment from the Conference Report on HR 12934, the State-Justice Department Appropriations bill. On August 3 of this year, the Senate approved the Dole Amendment, calling on the Attorney General to exercise his power of parole to allow for the immediate immigration of 15,000 Cambodian Refugees from refugee camps in Thailand into the United States.

Dole commented, "The overwhelming support for this Amendment in both Houses of Congress clearly demonstrates a compassion for the victims of the Holocaust now underway in Cambodia. The nation's doors are open to those who have been fortunate enough to escape what President Carter has termed 'the worst violation of human rights in the world today.' "

Dole added that he would contact the Attorney General to urge that the Congressional mandate be carried out as quickly as possible.