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NEWS from
U.S. Senator
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(R.-Kans.)

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DOLE GASOHOL AMENDMENT SURVIVES ENERGY CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON -- The joint House-Senate Energy Tax Conference today approved an amendment by Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) to the tax bill that would exempt gasohol from the present federal fuel tax. Dole is one of the Senate conferees.

Under the current law, gasoline or any gasoline blend that is used in a highway vehicle is subject to a four cents per gallon federal tax. The Dole amendment would exempt gasohol from the tax.

Gasohol is a blend of gasoline and at least 10 percent non-petroleum-derived alcohol. The alcohol is produced from many agricultural substances, including grain, sugar cane and wood.

"I'm pleased that the conference recognizes the potential energy savings that gasohol could bring," Dole said. "By making alcohol fuel prices competitive with gasoline, public awareness of using gasohol as a way of decreasing our dependence on foreign oil will be promoted.

"Gasohol is a product that has been tested and used since 1931, and it will be a viable fuel in the future. My amendment will help cultivate this infant industry. It will also help relieve our grain surplus by converting grain into gasohol."