

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

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CONTACT: BILL KATS, BOB WAITE
(202) 224-8947, -8953

DOLE SAYS INFLATION RATE WILL SOON BECOME AS HIGH AS CARTER NATIONAL APPROVAL RATING

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today that "the inflation rate may quickly become as high as President Carter's national approval rating.

"Release of today's consumer price figures gives a clear indication of where our economy is heading, and these figures also indicate that this Administration has done little to stem the tide of inflation.

"All of us in Congress know that solving inflation is not an easy task. Some of us realize the necessity for a tough stance against continued government spending. But I do not understand the reluctance by President Carter to make some difficult choices to get us back on the track.

"The citizens of this country unfortunately have no other choice but to be pulled along by inflation. For those who want to buy a home, the forecast that mortgage interest will continue to increase is distressing. For those who would like to establish a reasonable savings, the report that spendable earnings are down more than 7 percent from last year provides little hope. Workers' earnings are also down.

"But despite these signs that the United States is being manhandled by inflation, the Administration is content to stand on the sidelines and issue talk about meaningless budget cuts."