

# BOB DOLE



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## DOLE SAYS REG REFORM DRAFT DEFICIENT

WASHINGTON--Kansas Senator Bob Dole today gave a mixed review to news of the Office of Management and Budget's proposed legislation requiring the preparation of a budget assessment of the cost of certain regulations. "I am gratified that the President has finally responded to what many of us have been saying for some time," Dole commented. "Our regulatory agencies aggravate our already high rate of inflation by imposing the costs of complying with regulations on the private sector without a thorough appreciation of what those regulations will achieve, or even whether there are better, more cost-effective means to achieve those goals."

"As usual," said Dole, "the President has kicked this concept and missed the point. Mere assessments of costs not only describe just one aspect of regulations, but do not change what the agencies have been doing. I believe my own proposal, the 'Rulemaking Improvements Act,' would serve the needs and wishes of the American people in a much more direct and responsible way."

## THE DOLE DIFFERENCE

The Administration's proposal, in draft stage, would require federal agencies to prepare regulatory budgets to determine the costs of major rules. Dole's bill, S. 1969, introduced in November of last year with the co-sponsorship of seven other Senators, would require an agency determination that the benefits of each proposed rule or regulation will be worth its costs before it can be promulgated.

"Not only does the President's current approach not require agencies to change their actions based on these cost assessments, but it completely overlooks any consideration of the benefits of regulation," observed Dole. "While I don't favor assigning a dollar amount to each cost or benefit, I do believe that a rational analysis of the trade-offs of a proposed regulatory course is far superior to this sort of cosmetic, essentially meaningless maneuver that has become the trademark of the Carter economic policy."

Dole staff members have been in contact with the OMB, which is considering incorporating the Senator's suggestions.