

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE CALLS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION ON HOUSE REVENUE SHARING BILL

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) today sent a letter to the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate urging immediate Senate action on a bill passed by the House this week to extend the general revenue sharing program for three years. General revenue sharing distributes "no-strings" grants to state and local governments. The \$6.9-billion program was initiated in 1972 and expired on September 30, 1980.

Dole said, "Revenue sharing is one of the most successful programs that came out of Washington. It leaves control of local decisions with local governments. We should be moving towards more programs like revenue sharing, and we must not let this program expire. It is critical that we act now. Local governments all over America have relied on the availability of this money in their budgeting. There is not enough time for them to find funds in other places. The impact on government services would be severe."

The Senate has not yet considered a Finance Committee bill reported out of Committee on September 30. That bill contains \$1 billion in new spending on countercyclical aid to certain areas and makes a few adjustments in the present program. Dole said that the surest way to continue revenue sharing is to pass the House bill with minor changes, thereby avoiding the need for a conference.

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