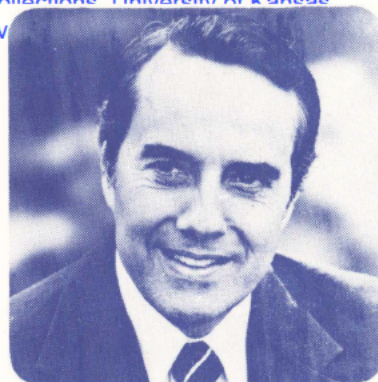


News from Senator

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DOLE CALLS FOR RESPONSIBLE ACTION ON SOCIAL SECURITY CRISIS, NOT POLITICAL RHETORIC

WASHINGTON -- Senator Robert Dole (R.-Kan.) today urged Congress to insure the solvency of Social Security, rather than subordinating the urgent financial needs of the system to political rhetoric.

In remarks prepared for a speech this evening in Sheridan, Wyoming, Senator Dole, whose Finance Committee has jurisdiction over social security, cautioned Americans not to be deceived by rhetoric coming from some Democrats on Capitol Hill.

"It is time to lay aside politics if we are to be truly responsible about one of the most important issues facing Congress. The politicization of social security would be a disaster, yet some Democrats insist on capitalizing on a crisis. We simply have to do something by July, 1983 or social security beneficiaries will face delayed payments or reduced checks," Dole said.

"This week, the Senate Budget Committee called for savings of some \$40 billion in the social security system over fiscal years 1983 to 1985, a proposal that would not necessarily require cuts in payments or benefit adjustments. The proposed \$40 billion savings is a first step toward preservation of the social security system, and so Americans should not be carried away by Democratic scare tactics. Some Democrats apparently would rather play politics while the trust funds run out of money. The long term stability of the social security system must be our objective, and if we are to achieve that goal we can not afford partisan politics," Dole continued.

"Bi-partisan, and non-partisan reports have consistently agreed that there are serious problems in the years ahead for social security. The safeguard and solvency of the system have always been a concern on both sides of the aisle, therefore it is puzzling that some would insist on making social security a partisan issue," Dole said.

"Furthermore, there are a number of objective polls that show those persons now paying into the social security system, especially those under thirty-years of age, have real doubts about whether there will even be social security when they are ready for retirement. So it seems to me that Congress should be doing all it can to restore confidence to the system, instead of posturing for a few headlines," Dole said.

"Unfortunately, it appears some Democrats will also be gunning for the third-year tax cut that fulfills the President's promise to give real tax relief to all working Americans. The working people of America deserve that cut, and have every reason to believe that Congress will not deny them that cut," Dole continued.

"So the issues appear to be clear. We hoped to avoid this kind of partisanship this year, especially with social security. We still hope to avoid it. But if recent evidence of the Democratic position on social security and taxes is any indication, we ought to get ready to do battle. Some of us hope that the American people win this one. I assure you we will do everything possible to see that you do," Dole concluded.