

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE HAILS "VICTORY FOR EVERYONE" ON TELEPHONE ACCESS CHARGES

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole called today's Senate action to let stand a Federal Communications Commission order imposing a moratorium on telephone access charges on residential and small business customers "a victory for everyone -- consumers as well as telephone companies of all sizes."

"Today's action in the Senate, coupled with the FCC decision, will reduce the impact of changes in the telephone industry on residential and small business customers -- particularly those in rural areas," said Senator Dole. "In the long run, our action today will allow the necessary flexibility to respond to the rapidly changing telecommunications industry."

"Senators Bob Packwood (R-OR) and Barry Goldwater (R-AZ) deserve a great deal of credit for focusing the attention of Congress on the problems that would ensue if the 'access charge orders' were allowed to take effect this year," said Dole.

The Senate vote to table the "telephone bill" follows last week's Federal Communications Commission order to impose the moratorium. On Wednesday, January 18, Senator Dole, along with a bipartisan group of 31 Senators, filed a public letter with the FCC to recommend the compromise that was eventually accepted.