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TELECOPY TO SEN. DOLE/WALT RIKER ↑

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DALLAS -- U.S. Senator Robert Dole (R-Kansas) today called upon Walter Mondale to fulfill the promise of the national Democratic ticket to make a full and complete disclosure of all income and assets, consistent with their pledge when they won the nomination.

Dole said: "When you are a candidate for national office, you must keep your commitments to the American people. In a prepared statement on July 24, Geraldine Ferraro said that she planned 'to include my husband's financial holdings in that disclosure because my husband and I believe it is in the public interest to do so, and because the office of Vice President is one of high public trust.' At that time, she also said she would release her husband's tax returns."

Dole continued: "Now, Mrs. Ferraro says she will not release her husband's tax returns, and will provide what she calls 'information' about her husband's income next week."

Dole said: "What has changed in the two-and-a-half weeks since Mrs. Ferraro's original promise to make a full financial disclosure? This is a serious question about information that the American public needs to know. Mrs. Ferraro said yesterday that her husband refuses to release tax returns, but just two-and-a-half weeks ago was saying that she and her husband felt it was in the public interest to do so. The public interest and the public's right to know have not changed -- have Mrs. Ferraro's views on disclosure changed?"



DOLE, et al, FULL DISCLOSURE RELEASE -- Page 2

Dole continued: "President and Mrs. Reagan, along with Vice President and Mrs. Bush, have never hidden this information from the public. Full disclosure is not a partisan issue; it is a matter of ethics. Full disclosure includes income-tax returns. All other candidates have met this obligation."

Senator Dole was joined in the challenge for full disclosure by Congresswoman Bobbi Fiedler (R-California).

Congresswoman Fiedler said: "I am deeply troubled that Mrs. Ferraro seems to want to have a double standard applied to her candidacy. Americans will not tolerate any attempt by Mrs. Ferraro to do anything less than her public duty. Any candidate for Vice President, man or woman, should reveal this information to the voters of this nation. When Walter Mondale ran for Vice President in 1976, he did the honorable thing. He should ask no less of his running mate this year."

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