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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1984 CONTACT: WALT RIKER (202) 224-6521

DOLE OKAYS GOP TAX PLANK

DALLAS -- Senator Bob Dole, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said today he has reviewed the proposed tax language in the Republican platform. "While the language contains some mischief, it should not cause any problems for the President," said Dole. "The platform does contain an endorsement of a specific flat tax proposal which in my view is premature without in-depth Congressional study and should therefore be eliminated from the GOP package."

"Republicans want to avoid any and all tax increases if possible, and this is reflected in the platform. It does contain enough flexibility to preserve the President's options," Dole said.

"Many delegates want to include their pet ideas in platform language, and perhaps too many of these were added." Dole said the whole exercise was "a little puzzling" because the two most vocal "no-tax" advocates (Cong. Newt Gingrich and Vin Weber) last week voted to increase excise taxes by \$8 billion on U.S. chemical companies. "It's inconsistent, but then, some seek headlines and push their own agenda -- not solutions or positions reflecting the President's views," said Dole.