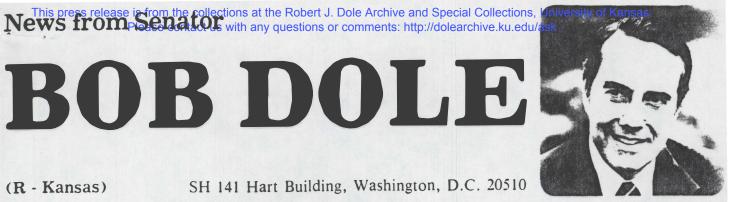
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(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1984

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DOLE LAUDS BIPARTISAN APPROACH TO DISABILITY REFORM

Washington--At a joint Senate-House press conference in the U.S. Capitol this morning, Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas), Chairman of the Committee on Finance, praised the bipartisan effort which led to the resolution of the Social Security Disability Insurance issue this week.

"For the better part of two years," Senator Dole said, "We in the Congress have been working to develop a bipartisan approach to disability reform and to forge a bill that protects the interests of the disabled without leading to runaway growth in the program. I think we have accomplished that in this conference agreement."

Senator Dole made the remarks at a press conference attended by Congressman J.J. Pickle (D-Texas), Chairman of the House Social Security Subcommittee, and other key members of both chambers of the Congress who had been instrumental in passage of the legislation.

The Committee on Finance Chairman said he expected to file the Conference Report on the 1984 Social Security Disability Amendments tonight and anticipated swift approval from the House and Senate to assure the bill would be on President Ronald Reagan's desk next week.

The complete text of Senator Dole's opening remarks at today's press conference is attached: