This press release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collection NewS from Sensator tus with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.ed

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OCTOBER 22, 1988

CONTACT: WALT RIKER, DALE TATE (202) 224-5358

DOLE HAILS PASSAGE OF DRUG BILL
MESSAGE TO PUSHER AND USER: "PLAY AND YOU WILL PAY!"
REPUBLICAN LEADER SAYS "WE'LL BE BACK FOR EVEN TOUGHER
MEDICINE WITH PRESIDENT BUSH"

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE TODAY CALLED FINAL PASSAGE OF A MAJOR NEW DRUG BILL "BAD NEWS FOR DRUG DEALERS AND THEIR CUSTOMERS", BUT ALSO PROMISED TO BE BACK NEXT YEAR "FOR EVEN TOUGHER MEDICINE".

THE BILL -- THE LAST MAJOR LEGISLATION OF THE 100TH CONGRESS -- IS ON ITS WAY TO THE WHITE HOUSE WHERE PRESIDENT REAGAN IS READY TO SIGN THE BILL INTO LAW.

"IT'S A BI-PARTISAN COMPROMISE THAT SHOULD GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE FIRST LIVE SHOT IN OUR WAR AGAINST DRUGS. BUT ONE THING WE DIDN'T COMPROMISE ON WAS OUR DETERMINATION TO SEND A TOUGH MESSAGE TO BOTH THE PUSHER AND THE USER -- PLAY AND YOU WILL PAY," SAID DOLE, WHO WAS THE PRINCIPAL AUTHOR OF THE DRUG BILL ON THE SENATE SIDE.

THE BILL CARRIES A \$3 BILLION PRICE TAG THAT INCLUDES AN IMMEDIATE \$500 MILLION FOR EDUCATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, INTERDICTION AND REHABILITATION. THE PACKAGE ALSO CONTAINS A DEATH PENALTY FOR DRUG KINGPINS, STIFF CIVIL FINES FOR DRUG CONSUMERS, THE REVOCATION OF SOME FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF DRUG CRIMES, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CABINET-LEVEL DRUG ADMINISTRATOR.

"THERE IS MUCH MORE WORK TO BE DONE, AND MANY MORE WEAPONS STILL NEEDED ON THE DRUG FRONT IF WE ARE EVER GOING TO WIN THE WAR. THAT'S WHY WE'LL BE BACK NEXT YEAR TO INSIST ON EVEN TOUGHER MEDICINE. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT GEORGE BUSH IS ON HIS WAY TO A BIG VICTORY IN NOVEMBER, IN LARGE MEASURE TO A GET-TOUGH-ON-CRIME PLATFORM, SO I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION TO HELP TURN ITS CAMPAIGN VISION INTO THE LAW OF THE LAND."

"FINALLY, I'M PLEASED WE HAVE BEAT BACK THE OLD LIBERAL COP-OUT THAT USERS OF DRUGS ARE SOMEHOW 'VICTIMS'. WELL, IF THEY ARE BUYING AND CONSUMING DRUGS FROM NOW ON THEY HAD BETTER BE READY TO ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES -- THANKS TO OUR DRUG BILL, THAT COULD MEAN AS MUCH AS A \$10,000 FINE," DOLE SAID.