

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

NEW FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR EASTERN EUROPE; DOLE PLAN HEADS TO WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON - LEGISLATION AUTHORED BY SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS) TO CREATE AN INNOVATIVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO ASSIST EASTERN EUROPE'S EMERGING DEMOCRACIES IS ON ITS WAY TO THE WHITE HOUSE, FOLLOWING FINAL APPROVAL TODAY BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THE DOLE LEGISLATION EXPANDS THE CURRENT FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OF EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES AMONG NATIONS' PRIVATE BUSINESSES, TRADE ASSOCIATIONS, UNIONS, AND GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

"THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF TALK THIS YEAR ABOUT FINANCIAL AID TO THE EMERGING DEMOCRACIES OF EASTERN EUROPE," DOLE SAID, "BUT NOTHING CAN PROMOTE CHANGE FASTER THAN THE POWER OF IDEAS. THAT'S WHAT THESE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AIMED AT -- PROMOTING DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE FORMERLY TOTALITARIAN WORLD."

UNDER THE DOLE LEGISLATION, THE PRESIDENT WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO FINANCE RELEVANT STUDIES, RESEARCH AND INSTRUCTION, AS WELL AS VISITS AND EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EMERGING DEMOCRACIES. THE FUNDING WILL BE PROVIDED FROM THE TRAVEL ACCOUNTS OF U.S. DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES. THE U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY WILL OVERSEE THE PROGRAM.

"POLAND, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BULGARIA AND ROMANIA HAVE LONG BEEN LOOKING TO OUR NATION FOR INSPIRATION AND AMERICAN KNOW-HOW," DOLE ADDED. "BY DIVERTING GOVERNMENT TRAVEL DOLLARS, WE CAN PAINLESSLY MEET MANY OF THEIR PRACTICAL NEEDS THROUGH THIS TIMELY EXPANSION OF FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS."

THE DOLE PLAN, CLEARED BY THE SENATE LAST WEEK, IS AN AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT OF 1990. PRESIDENT BUSH IS EXPECTED TO SIGN THE LEGISLATION.

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