

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 31, 1992

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

DEMOCRAT HYPOCRISY

**GOP UNITED BEHIND BUSH PLAN -- DEMOCRATS DON'T HAVE ONE;
LONG RECORD OF DEMOCRAT OBSTRUCTION OF MAINSTREAM AMERICA'S AGENDA**

EVER SINCE PRESIDENT BUSH DELIVERED HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS TUESDAY NIGHT, AND UNVEILED HIS NEW BUDGET THE FOLLOWING DAY, WE'VE BEEN TREATED TO THE USUAL PARTISAN RAIN DANCE OF CRITICISM: "IT'S NOT ENOUGH...IT'LL NEVER WORK...IT'S OUT OF TOUCH...AND IT'S A TOTAL FLOP."

ACTUALLY, THAT'S WHAT MOST PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT CONGRESS THESE DAYS.

SO LET'S FACE IT, WHEN IT COMES TO ACTION, COURAGE AND VISION, CONGRESS HAS NO RIGHT TO CLAIM ANY MORAL HIGH GROUND. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE KNOW THAT CONGRESS IS JUST AS ACCOUNTABLE -- AND JUST AS BLAMEABLE -- AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WHEN IT COMES TO THE ECONOMY, TO HEALTH CARE, TO EDUCATION, AND TO EVERY OTHER ISSUE CRITICAL TO THE NATION'S WELL-BEING.

WHO HAS A PLAN; WHO DOESN'T

DESPITE ALL THE RHETORIC, THERE IS ONE FACT THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICS NEVER MENTION: THE PRESIDENT HAS A PLAN, AND THEY DON'T. IF THERE IS A "DEMOCRAT PLAN", NO ONE HAS INTRODUCED IT. OF COURSE, THERE IS A PRETTY GOOD REASON WHY -- IT DOESN'T EXIST.

THAT'S WHY PRESIDENT BUSH WAS RIGHT TO CHALLENGE CONGRESS TO DO SOMETHING, AND TO DO IT QUICKLY; AND HE WAS RIGHT TO CHALLENGE US WITH A MARCH 20TH DEADLINE TO MAKE CERTAIN WE GET MOVING UP HERE.

OF COURSE, DEADLINES AREN'T VERY POPULAR ON CAPITOL HILL -- CONGRESS WON'T BE FOUND IN THE BOOKS WHEN IT COMES TO BREAKING SPEED RECORDS -- BUT THE PEOPLE ARE DEMANDING ACTION.

IF YOU NEED ANY PROOF, CONSIDER THIS FACT: CONGRESS HAS YET TO TERMINATE THE COMMISSION ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION. NOW, THE COMMISSION DID A FINE JOB, BUT THAT JOB SHOULD HAVE ENDED WHEN THE BICENTENNIAL ENDED...FIVE YEARS AGO.

YEARS OF DEMOCRAT OBSTRUCTION -- TOUGH TALK, NO ACTION

CURIOUSLY, MANY OF THE CRITICS BLASTING PRESIDENT BUSH FOR NOT DOING ENOUGH TODAY ARE THE VERY SAME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO FOR YEARS HAVE BEEN BLOCKING LEGISLATION THE MAJORITY OF AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT PASSED -- AND YOU CAN START WITH THE CRIME BILL.

THE PEOPLE ARE FED-UP WITH CRIME: FED-UP WITH BEING TERRORIZED IN THEIR STREETS AND NEIGHBORHOODS; FED-UP WITH THE ONGOING DRUG NIGHTMARE; FED-UP WITH A JUDICIAL SYSTEM THAT SEEMS TILTED MORE TOWARDS CRIMINALS THAN VICTIMS; AND FED-UP WITH A CONGRESS THAT TALKS TOUGH BUT WON'T BACK IT UP.

YEAR AFTER YEAR, TOUGH ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION IS INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE. YET, YEAR AFTER YEAR, IT IS MADE PRACTICALLY TOOTHLESS BY THE MAJORITY PARTY.

DESPITE THE CRIES OF THE PEOPLE, THERE IS STILL NO HABEAS CORPUS REFORM -- STILL NO WAY TO PREVENT CRIMINALS FROM GETTING OFF ON TECHNICALITIES, OR FRUSTRATING JUSTICE WITH ENDLESS APPEALS AND LOOPHOLE GYMNASTICS; AND STILL NO REFORM TO THE EXCLUSIONARY RULE -- STILL NO WAY TO MAKE GOOD FAITH EVIDENCE STICK IN COURT SO THAT CRIMINALS DO TIME INSTEAD OF DODGING IT.

THE DEMOCRATS' DE FACTO FILIBUSTERS: SPENDING, LIABILITY & BANK REFORM

YEAR AFTER YEAR, TOUGH ANTI-SPENDING LAWS ARE INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE. YET, YEAR AFTER YEAR, THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT AND THE LINE-ITEM VETO ARE BLOCKED BY THE MAJORITY PARTY. WITHOUT THESE BUDGET TOOLS, BOTH THE PRESIDENT, THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE ARE EVEN MORE POWERLESS TO TURN OFF THE CONGRESSIONAL SPENDING MACHINE.

YEAR AFTER YEAR, AMERICAN BUSINESS HAS BEGGED CONGRESS FOR RELIEF FROM CRIPPLING LIABILITY COSTS. BUT DESPITE THE FACT THAT THESE UNREASONABLE COSTS HAVE PUT THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS OUT OF WORK, AND SHUT DOWN PRODUCTION LINES, ESPECIALLY IN AVIATION MANUFACTURING, THE DEMOCRAT MAJORITY CONTINUES TO BLOCK EVERY ATTEMPT TO REFORM LIABILITY LAW.

(MORE)

AND THIS PAST FEBRUARY, THE ADMINISTRATION SENT CONGRESS A TWO-PART PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN THE NATION'S COMMERCIAL BANKS AND TO INSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF CREDIT FOR CONSUMERS. PART ONE OF THE PROPOSAL REQUIRED BANKS, THEMSELVES, TO BEAR THE \$30 BILLION COST OF REPLENISHING THE RESOURCES OF THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION. PART TWO OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE PROVIDED THE BANKING INDUSTRY WITH THE TOOLS TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY EXPENSES, RAISE CAPITAL AND BE MORE COMPETITIVE.

BUT CONGRESS RESPONDED BY SADDLING THE BANKS WITH THE \$30 BILLION IN ADDITIONAL EXPENSES, AND DID NOTHING TO HELP THE INDUSTRY STRENGTHEN ITSELF. NOW THE CONSEQUENCES OF CONGRESSIONAL INACTION IS BECOMING PAINFULLY CLEAR: BANK CREDIT HAS DRIED UP, AND REPORTS INDICATE THAT ANOTHER MASSIVE TAXPAYER BAIL-OUT COULD WELL BE ON THE HORIZON.

UNFORTUNATELY, ALL OF THIS INACTION -- ALL OF THESE DE FACTO FILIBUSTERS -- HAS HELPED PUT US BEHIND THE ECONOMIC EIGHT BALL. IF THE BOTTOMLINE IS REVITALIZING THE ECONOMY, THEN WE OUGHT TO ACT; AND AS I HAVE JUST INDICATED, WE COULD HAVE ACTED BOLDLY DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS TO AVOID SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WE ARE TRYING TO DEAL WITH NOW.

"SOAK THE RICH" CRUSADE SOCKS WORKING AMERICA

BUT IT'S FAR EASIER TO CRITICIZE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CRITICS CHARGE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD ACT MORE LIKE OUR TRADING PARTNERS, THAT WE ARE STRAPPED BECAUSE WE HAVE TROUBLE COMPETING IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKETPLACE. WELL, MANY OF OUR TRADING PARTNERS SUCH AS GERMANY, CANADA, THE NETHERLANDS AND, YES, JAPAN, HAVE LOW CAPITAL GAINS TAX RATES, NOT TO "HELP THE RICH", BUT TO STRENGTHEN THEIR ECONOMIES.

THESE COUNTRIES UNDERSTAND THAT BY REDUCING THE COST OF CAPITAL, YOU ENCOURAGE CAPITAL FORMATION, INVESTMENT, AND THE CREATION OF NEW JOBS AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

SADLY, THE DETERMINED OPPOSITION ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE AISLE AGAINST THIS LONG OVERDUE ECONOMIC SHOT-IN-THE-ARM IS NOT THE NOBLE "SOAK THE RICH" CRUSADE THEY CLAIM IT IS. IN TRUTH, IT IS A DETERMINED FILIBUSTER AGAINST WORKING AMERICA IN THE NAME OF POLITICS.

CLOCK IS TICKING

THE CLOCK IS TICKING. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DO NOT WANT BUSINESS AS USUAL. THEY DON'T WANT ANY MORE POLITICAL GAMES. CONGRESS CAN SPEND THE NEXT FEW WEEKS SEEING WHO CAN SCORE THE MOST CHEAPSHOTS, AND MAKE THE CLEVEREST ATTACK ON PRESIDENT BUSH.

OR, CONGRESS CAN SPEND THE NEXT FEW WEEKS WORKING WITH THE PRESIDENT, IN A BI-PARTISAN SPIRIT FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. I BELIEVE IT'S AN EASY CHOICE TO MAKE. AND WE CAN START TODAY.

###