



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ANTI-TERRORISM BILL

DOLE URGES CONFEREES TO STRENGTHEN BILL TO COMBAT TERRORISM

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole today wrote to Senate members of the conference committee on the anti-terrorism bill urging them to strengthen the measure by adopting key provisions contained in the Senate-passed version. The text of Senator Dole's letter follows:

On June 7th, 1995, the Senate overwhelmingly passed S. 735, the Comprehensive Terrorism Prevention Act of 1995, by a vote of 91-8. This bipartisan legislation demonstrates the Senate's firm commitment to seriously addressing the threat of terrorism in the United States. On March 14th, 1996, the House passed a very different version of the Comprehensive Terrorism Act, a version which weakens or deletes several critical provisions.

While I realize there are many differences to be resolved in conference, there are three provisions which deserve special consideration. Each of these provisions strengthens current law in a manner which enhances our ability to combat terrorism and protect American security. These provisions were overwhelmingly agreed to by the Senate with no significant opposition. These three provisions all serve key purposes in our war against both domestic and international terrorism.

- *Alien Removal. Title III, Section 301, 302, 303, 304.* These provisions facilitate the speedy removal of suspected foreign terrorists from United States soil. Residence in the U.S. is a privilege, not a right. We have the right to remove aliens who are known to be dangerous to this country and its citizens while protecting intelligence sources and methods.
- *Limiting Terrorist Fundraising in the U.S. Title IV, Section 401, 402.* These provisions prohibit terrorists, groups associated with terrorists, and their agents from raising funds in this country. These provisions are critical to halt foreign terrorist fundraising in the U.S.
- *Membership in a terrorist organization as a basis for exclusion from the United States under the Immigration and Naturalization Act. Title II, Section 210.* Current law requires a reasonable belief of past terrorist activity to deny an individual alien access to this country. The Senate version makes membership in a terrorist organization a basis for exclusion. There is no reason to allow members of terrorist organizations into our country. Like residence in the U.S., entering the United States is a privilege; it is not a right and this privilege that should not be available to members of terrorist groups.

In the upcoming conference, I urge you to insist that at least these crucial provisions are included in the conference report. Each will help address the threat of international terrorism while preserving the constitutional safeguards that ensure our freedom. The recent wave of terrorist bombings in the Middle East demonstrate the need for the U.S. to act decisively against this threat.

Sincerely,
BOB DOLE
U.S. Senate

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