



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.) New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1977

CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON

PUBLIC FINANCING A RIP-OFF, SAYS DOLE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- "I cannot understand why the Senate leadership is wasting time debating public campaign financing," Senator Bob Dole said today. "The outcry over Congressional pay raises should have taught Senators a lesson, but instead we're now preparing to rip-off the American taxpayer again with a scheme to pay for our campaigns out of the federal treasury."

"Public financing opens up a Pandora's box of opportunities for us to favor ourselves over potential challengers in the future," Dole charged. "It is unseemly for us to be writing rules that give us a decided edge in future elections. It will make candidates dependent upon the public till and put incumbent Congressmen in control of the purse strings."

Dole charged that the bill would not end the influence of special interest groups -- one of the main arguments proponents of public financing advance. "Rather than decreasing such influence, it merely place labor unions and corporations in a better position relative to other interest groups."

Dole said there will be an effort to rush this "bad legislation through the Senate before taxpayers learn of the awful consequences. I urge taxpayers to contact their Senators and protest this outrage."

The Senate will begin debating public financing of Congressional campaigns on Monday, July 25.