

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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REAGAN PRESENTS 'BALANCED' ECONOMIC PLAN, DOLE SAYS

WASHINGTON -- "If I could describe President Reagan's economic proposal in one word, it would be 'balance,'" Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) said today.

"The President has sent Congress a workable program of tax cuts balanced by stringent budget reductions. Congress must especially see to it that budget reductions are assured before embarking on a stiff tax reduction program.

"So the balance -- the mix between tax and budget cuts -- is crucial to the survival of this program. As the President spelled out last night, the two major parts of this economic plan must be undertaken simultaneously. It would be a serious mistake for Congress to enact a large tax cut and let the spending cuts lag behind and face the danger of being chipped away by parochial interests.

"The timetable is important. It is my view that Congress must get a quick start on the entire package. As chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, I am prepared to begin hearings on the spending side soon while the House works on the tax cut. I believe I have the support of the other Finance Committee members when I say that we want to see an economic package passed as quickly as possible. I don't think it is unreasonable to expect that this plan be completed in Congress by mid-summer.

"But it will take leadership from the President and congressional leaders to assure that we stick to this timetable. It is my hope also that the American people keep pressure on their representatives to move quickly. With good leadership we will produce a fair and equitable program."