

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE RELEASES STATISTICS ON WITHHOLDING MAIL

WASHINGTON -- Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) today released the following statistics about mail generated by financial institution lobbyists to urge Congress to repeal the withholding of taxes owed on interest and dividend income.

1. Total amount of withholding mail received by Senator Dole:

<u>KANSAS</u>	<u>OUT-OF-STATE</u>
60,000	350,000

2. More than 90 percent of the withholding mail are pre-printed coupons and post cards generated by financial institution lobby organizations.

3. Members of Senator Dole's staff handling withholding mail full time (personal Senate staff and Finance Committee staff):

8 computer operators processing mail
6 secretaries, receptionists opening and sorting mail

TOTAL: 14 full-time staff members answering withholding mail

4. Withholding inquiries answered as of March 10, 1983:

<u>KANSAS</u>	<u>OUT-OF-STATE</u>
60,000 - total	350,000 - total
<u>17,256</u> - responses	<u>000,000</u> - responses
42,744 - to be answered	350,000 - to be answered

5. Letters on other subjects that have not been answered because of the withholding mailings, from Kansas and other states:

15,000 total received by Senator Dole

6. Total U.S. Senate mail on all issues, January 1 - March 4 :

1982 - 6 million pieces of mail

1983 - 10.5 million pieces of mail

According to the Senate Post Office, the withholding blitz is chiefly responsible for an almost doubling of Senate mail this year. The mail room says it is the most mail ever received on one issue -- "Unprecedented, by far the largest mail-in on any subject we've ever seen."

7. ESTIMATED COST TO ANSWER SENATOR DOLE'S 410,000 WITHHOLDING INQUIRIES:

\$300,000 - for first class franked letters with 5 total pages (3 page letter plus 2 pages of inserts)