

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE AT WHITE HOUSE SOCIAL SECURITY SIGNING SESSION

HAILS BIPARTISAN PACKAGE

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole, one of the chief architects of the Social Security rescue package, watched President Reagan sign the landmark legislation into law at an April 20 White House signing ceremony.

"This was a day many people thought would never happen. But the President's National Commission on Social Security Reform, Congress and the Administration accomplished the 'impossible' -- we now have in place a solid consensus reform package backed by broad, bipartisan support," Dole said. "That's welcome news for 36 million Social Security beneficiaries and the 116 million working Americans who now pay into the system."

Senator Dole was a key member of the President's Social Security Commission which fashioned the blueprint for the congressional rescue package. Also, as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over Social Security, Dole introduced the Social Security legislation that President Reagan signed into law.

The Social Security Act Amendments of 1983, introduced by Senator Dole on January 26, was passed by Congress on March 25.

"I am especially proud of this legislative achievement. It demonstrates that Congress can do the right thing once and a while," Dole said.

"Of course, this does not mean that everyone is happy with each and every aspect of the bill. But that's the nature of a true compromise -- everybody had to give a little to save the system." Dole said.

"The legislation requires concessions from everyone who has a stake in Social Security -- current beneficiaries, the working people who support the system, as well as government workers who do not contribute to the system. Great care was taken to protect those least able to bear an additional burden."