

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1983

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DOLE SAYS BUDGET RESOLUTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN REJECTED --

LITTLE SPENDING RESTRAINT, MASSIVE TAX HIKES ARE UNACCEPTABLE

WASHINGTON -- Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today blasted last night's Senate approval of a budget that calls for \$73 billion in new taxes during the next three years.

"In my view we should have rejected the entire budget resolution. I'm willing to bet that some of the 50 who voted for the budget resolution would not vote for a dollar of the \$73 billion in tax increases they voted for in the budget resolution," Dole said. "If we can't cut spending, there's no reason to raise taxes."

The Kansas Republican pointed out that 11 of the 20 members of his Senate Finance Committee voted against the budget resolution.

"There's almost no chance that taxes will be increased by \$73 billion. I'm willing to look at revenues -- a much, much smaller revenue target as part of a spending reduction package -- but before we do anything with the third year of the tax cut and indexing, we ought to take a harder look at tax compliance and tax loopholes before we start taking away tax relief scheduled for working Americans."

"From my discussions with House Ways and Means Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, it is evident that tax increases of the magnitude accepted last night are not feasible anyway, and such a narrowly divided vote on the floor would indicate an inability to ultimately pass increases of that size," said Dole.

"There's very little question that people were just voting for numbers."