

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
(202) 224-5358

DOLE TELLS S&L CONFEREES TO STAY TOUGH:  
S&L SOLUTION LONG OVERDUE, TAXPAYERS PICKING UP TAB FOR DELAY

MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE HOUSE WILL NOT BE READY TO SEND OVER THEIR VERSION OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS REFORM, RECOVERY AND ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1989, H.R. 1278 UNTIL WEDNESDAY. ONCE WE RECEIVE THE BILL, WE WILL PROCEED TO CONFERENCE ON THE THRIFT REFORM BILL.

URGENT ACTION NEEDED

I WANT TO REMIND MY COLLEAGUES FROM BOTH HOUSES WHO WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS CONFERENCE HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT THEY MOVE QUICKLY TO RESOLVE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE HOUSE AND SENATE VERSIONS OF THE BILL AND REACH AN AGREEMENT.

IN PRESIDENT BUSH'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS ON FEBRUARY 9, HE GAVE CONGRESS 45 DAYS TO COMPLETE ACTION ON THIS LEGISLATION. TODAY IS DAY NUMBER 130, AND WE STILL DO NOT HAVE A BILL READY FOR THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE.

SENATOR JAKE GARN HAS STATED REPEATEDLY THAT WE NEED TO STOP THE HEMORRHAGING. I AGREE. WITH LOSSES PILING UP AT A RATE OF \$1 BILLION A MONTH, IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE CONTAIN THE LOSSES.

TWO FULL MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE SENATE PASSED ITS VERSION OF THE BILL, RAISING THE ULTIMATE COST OF THE THRIFT INDUSTRY BAILOUT BY AS MUCH AS \$2 BILLION. THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER CANNOT AFFORD FURTHER DELAY.

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A BIPARTISAN EFFORT TO PRODUCE REFORM IN BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS HAS GENERATED TWO STRONG BILLS. THE PRESIDENT WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WHEN MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE VOTED THURSDAY TO DEFEAT THE HYDE AMENDMENT BY A VOTE OF 326-94. THE HOUSE LEADERSHIP ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE HENRY GONZALEZ, AND THE RANKING MEMBER, CHALMERS WYLIE, ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR EFFORTS ON THIS ISSUE.

A STRONG BILL IS NEEDED

BUT, THERE ARE MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE HOUSE AND SENATE VERSIONS OF THE BILL. THE FUNDING AND HOUSING PROVISIONS ARE OBVIOUS EXAMPLES. THESE DIFFERENCES WILL HAVE TO BE IRONED OUT IN THE CONFERENCE.

MY HOPE IS THAT THE CONFEREES WILL DECIDE TO INCLUDE THE TOUGHEST PROVISIONS IN BOTH BILLS IN THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENT. - WE MUST MOVE QUICKLY, BUT WE ALSO NEED TO MOVE RESPONSIBLY.

WE OWE THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER OUR BEST EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THIS NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN. THAT MEANS REDUCING THE RISK TO THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE FUNDS BY REQUIRING THAT THE INDUSTRY PUT UP REAL CAPITAL.

THIS IS A MASSIVE PIECE OF LEGISLATION. IT LAYS THE GROUNDWORK FOR A STRUCTURAL OVERHAUL OF THE THRIFT REGULATORY SYSTEM AND PROVIDES A FUNDING MECHANISM FOR THE LARGEST BAILOUT IN HISTORY -- THE TOTAL COST COULD RUN OVER \$157 BILLION.

KEEP THE MOMENTUM

THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE, BUT WE MUST NOT LOSE THE MOMENTUM OF THE LAST WEEK.

I URGE MY COLLEAGES TO PUSH FOR A CONFERENCE AGREEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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