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## SENATOR DOLE HOSTS ASIAN-AMERICAN BREAKFAST

Washington -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole and nine of his Senate colleagues today met with 37 prominent Asian-American business and community leaders from across the nation to discuss a broad spectrum of issues concerning the Asian-American community.

"We've hosted a number of breakfasts like this. The topics have ranged from small business to foreign policy to health care. It's critical for us to seek the input and perspective of people whose hopes and dreams are affected by decisions made in Washington." said Senator Dole. "This morning's meeting with the Asian-American community leaders gave us some real insight into some of the issues facing them -- issues like racially motivated crimes, the implications of the recent tax bill on small business, health care reform, and immigration reform."

Those attending the breakfast came from all over the United States and represented a multitude of backgrounds, and included small business owners, entrepreneurs, journalists, lawyers, shop owners, restaurateurs, and even the Republican candidate for Governor of Hawaii and former Congresswoman, the Honorable Patricia Saiki.

Other Republican Senators who attended the breakfast included Senators Cohen, Lugar, Bennett, Stevens, Coverdell, Murkowski, Pressler, Bond, and D'Amato.

Senator Dole closed the hour and a half long meeting by saying, "This is only the beginning of a dialogue that we Republicans would like to have with the many voices of the Asian-American community. It is our every intention to have these meetings on an on-going basis. I hope all of you will continue to inform us on various issues that our nation faces."

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