

Pg. 190-1995

2-A The Topeka Capital-Journal
Saturday, January 21, 1995

Dole says delays OK, but only for Republicans

By CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sure, the Republicans made an art out of delaying legislation the past two years. But Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole says that was different from the current Democratic-engineered stall.

"We delayed, we think, for the right reasons," the Kansan said Friday. "The American people didn't want that stuff the Democrats were pushing."

The stalling tactics now gumming up the Senate's works are on issues most Democrats actually support, Dole said. The current subject of delay is a bill preventing Congress from forcing costs on local and state governments without sending along any money.

"I think the final vote will be very lopsided," Dole told reporters. "They're just wanting to stall it and stall it. The difference is vast."

With Dole as GOP leader, Republicans bottled up several major Democratic initiatives the past two years, including an economic stimulus package sought by President Clinton.

Senate rules give the minority party, even a single senator, many creative ways to delay legislation. For example, most day-to-day business in the Senate requires unanimous consent, so one senator can hold up business for long periods of time.

Now, the acknowledged Senate rules master, Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., has used his abilities to prevent a vote on the unfunded mandates bill this week.

"Senator Byrd, maybe he feels it's get-even time because we stopped his stimulus package," Dole said.

On the Senate floor Thursday, Dole acknowledged Byrd by saying it's proper for the minority party to use the rules to their advantage.

Hutchinson News Saturday, January 21, 1995 Page 3

Dole sees distinctions in GOP, Demo stall tactics

By Ray Hemman
The Hutchinson News

States and local governments should expect relief from the federal government on unfunded mandates, but don't expect to be able to cruise U.S. 50 between Hutchinson and Stafford at 70 mph — legally, at least — any time soon.

Even though Senate Democrats have been blocking the unfunded-mandates legislation now pending in Congress, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., said he expects the legislation to sail through with bipartisan support.

"The Democrats are pretty good at blocking things," Dole said during a telephone press conference with Kansas media Friday, "so we are trying to complete some legislation we should have completed a few days ago. Hopefully, we will finish it next week. It's called unfunded mandates, which is very important to governors and others in Kansas and elsewhere."

"I think the final vote will be very lopsided, but the Democrats just don't want to vote on it. They are

trying to stall until after the president's State of the Union message, I guess."

Dole drew a distinction between the legislative roadblocks now being thrown up by Democrats and those thrown up by Republicans over the past several years.

"We delayed, we think, for the right reasons," Dole said. "We didn't think the American people wanted all that stuff the Democrats were pushing. Most of it was more government, more mandates, more taxes. We thought that by slowing down, we were doing what the American people wanted. I think the election reflected some of that."

"On the other hand, the bills they (Democrats) have been slowing down have been to cover Congress with all the laws that apply to everyone else in America. It took us five days to pass that bill. It should have taken us one day to do that. Now, with unfunded mandates ... the Democrats are going to vote for it, but they are going to stall it and stall it and stall it."

Dole pointed to the Democrats'

economic stimulus bill that Republicans battled two years ago.

"Robert Byrd (Democratic senator from West Virginia) could figure out a way to spend \$18 billion of taxpayers' money," Dole said. "We said you don't need that, and we finally stopped that. That may be one reason (for Democratic tactics). Sen. Byrd maybe figures it is get-even time — stop us because we stopped his stimulus package."

While unfunded mandates is a popular issue related to states' rights, Dole said he did not believe Congress would be quick to grant states more power to set up standards in the area of safety and environment — or the speed limit.

"On health and safety, it is a little different than unfunded mandates," he said. "If you are talking about health regulations, it is pretty hard to say different states can have different regulations and different health matters. I think we have to realize that government does do some good and some of the regulations are necessary and probably should be federal."

The Salina Journal Saturday, January 21, 1995 3

Dole: Democrats' stall tactics different than GOP's

By CURT ANDERSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sure, the Republicans made an art out of delaying legislation the past two years. But Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole says that was different from the current Democratic-engineered stall.



Dole

"We delayed, we think, for the right reasons," the Kansan said Friday. "The American people didn't want that stuff the Democrats were pushing."

The stalling tactics now gumming up the Senate's works are on issues most Democ-

rats actually support, Dole said. The current subject of delay is a bill preventing Congress from forcing costs on local and state governments without sending along any money.

"I think the final vote will be very lopsided," Dole told reporters. "They're just wanting to stall it and stall it. The difference is vast."

With Dole as GOP leader, Republicans bottled up several major Democratic initiatives the last two years, including an economic stimulus package sought by President Clinton.

Senate rules give the minority party, even a single senator, many creative ways to delay legislation. For example, most

day-to-day business in the Senate requires unanimous consent, so one senator can hold up business for long periods of time.

Now, the acknowledged Senate rules master, Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., has used his abilities to prevent a vote on the unfunded mandates bill this week.

On the Senate floor Thursday, Dole acknowledged Byrd by saying it's proper for the minority party to use the rules to advantage.

"I'm not here saying you shouldn't do it," he said.

But, he added, "we're a little bit frustrated. The American people want us to pass this bill."

Dole said Friday that no action would be

taken in the Senate on a \$40 billion loan guarantee to help the troubled Mexican economy until Democrats stop stalling the unfunded mandates bill.

"We're going to hold up the Mexico package until the Democrats stop slowing down legislation here," he said.

The North American Free Trade Agreement isn't the cause of the drop in value of the Mexican peso, he said, adding that Americans have a great interest in seeing the economy improve.

"We don't want the Mexican economy to collapse. There'd be hundreds of thousands of people coming to our borders," he said. "My view is, sooner or later we'll have to deal with it."

Hutchinson News Sunday
January 22, 1995

Dole rallies GOP

By Robert Shogan
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Deriding President Clinton for waging "class warfare" at home while undermining American prestige abroad, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., on Saturday sought to rally Republicans for a "great contest" to determine which party and what principles will dominate the United States' political future.

The competition took on a sharp edge because Dole addressed a breakfast session of the Republican National Committee just a few hours before Clinton spoke to the Democratic National Committee, which was also meeting in the capital.

See DOLE, Page 2

Dole

Continued from Page 1
Dole taunted his opponents, referring to the Democratic session as "a wake" and reminding his audience that when Clinton was nominated for president, Democrats made the refrain "Don't stop thinking about tomorrow" the unofficial theme for their convention.

"Well, now it's tomorrow," he said, "and they don't know what to think about it ..."
Dole was invited to speak to the RNC because he is the leader of the Senate. But he also happens to be an almost certain candidate for the presidency, and his speech — blending condemnation of Clinton and the Democrats with a reaffirmation of Republican principles — could well serve as a rough draft for the Republican battle plan to retake the White House in 1996.

The partisan bite of Dole's remarks, coming one day after House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., used the same forum to loudly denounce his Democratic critics, belied the talk of bipartisan harmony heard from leaders of both parties only a few weeks ago.

"We find ourselves now in the House and the Senate, as Newt said yesterday, trying to move the issues, trying to deliver on the message the American people sent us just a few weeks ago," Dole said. He complained that the Democrats are standing in the way, opposing even measures he contended many of them actually favor, such as curbing the federal government's ability to require states to take certain actions without providing them with the necessary funds.

"Now, I know a little bit about delaying tactics," Dole said, referring to the filibusters and other maneuvers Senate Republicans used to stall Democratic legislation when the GOP was the minority party. "But we never delayed anything we were for."

Dole also emphasized the significance of the disagreements between Democrats and Republicans. Rejecting the idea that the current clashes on Capitol Hill reflect merely "a squabble among special interests," he said: "We have profoundly different ideas, Democrats and Republicans, about government. We disagree about some fundamental social values. We have a different understanding about America's place in the world."

The Topeka Capital-Journal
Sunday, January 22, 1995

Can Dole run again, but with success?

By GENE SMITH
The Capital-Journal

Bob Dole is running for president again.

It came as no surprise to anyone when Kansas' senior senator announced the formation of an "exploratory committee" shortly after the first of the year.

As William Jefferson Clinton's popularity remained low, it was obvious to the densest Dole-watcher that he was suffering from a serious relapse of presidential fever.

Problem: This comes almost simultaneously with the Russell politician's second ascension to the post of majority leader of the Senate and the leadership of the Republican Party. With Clinton savaged by resentful Democrats, with Speaker Newt Gingrich at bay in the House, Robert J. Dole of Kansas is arguably the most powerful political leader on the world stage.

It is Bob Dole who dictates terms to the Bosnians, rubs elbows with the British and French, and advises the Russians. It is still Gingrich who sets the political agenda on Capitol Hill — but it is Dole who shapes the debate and crafts the legislation that emerges.

Questions: Can he run for president without compromising his present effectiveness? Would Kansas and the nation be better off under President Dole than under Majority Leader Dole? Will he compromise his own effectiveness if he stumbles and falls in this bid — as he has in the past?

■ Nobody in Kansas believes Dole is merely "leaning in the direction" of running for president. They know he's already running hard and many wish him well. ■ Several Kansas political figures think whatever he does will be good for the state.

AB ■ SUNDAY ■ JANUARY 22, 1995 ■ THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

Dole says that Republicans stalled legislation 'for the right reasons'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Turnabout may be fair play, but Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole says he's tired of the Democratic delaying tactics on legislation.

The Senate's works are now gummed up on a bill preventing Congress from forcing costs on local and state governments without sending along any money. It's a measure Dole said Friday most Democrats actually support.

"I think the final vote will be very lopsided," Dole told reporters. "They're just wanting to stall it and stall it. The difference is vast."

Although the GOP made an art out of bottling up Democratic legislation the past two years with Dole as Senate Republican leader, the Kansan said that was different.

"We delayed, we think, for the right reasons," Dole said. "The American people didn't want that stuff the Democrats were pushing."

Senate rules give the minority party, even a single senator, many creative ways to delay legislation. For

example, most day-to-day business in the Senate requires unanimous consent, so one senator can hold up business for long periods of time.

Now, the acknowledged Senate rules master, Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., used his abilities to prevent a vote on the unfunded mandates bill this week.

On the Senate floor Thursday, Dole acknowledged Byrd by saying it's proper for the minority party to use the rules to advantage.

"I'm not here saying you shouldn't do it," he said.

But, he added, "we're a little bit frustrated. The American people want us to pass this bill."

Dole said Friday that no action would be taken in the Senate on a \$40 billion loan guarantee to help the troubled Mexican economy until Democrats stop stalling the unfunded mandates bill.

"We're going to hold up the Mexico package until the Democrats stop slowing down legislation here," he said.