

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS
—
244 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
CAPITOL 4-3121, EXT. 2715
—
COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE
—
DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COUNTIES:		
BARBER	HODGEMAN	RAWLINS
BARTON	JEWELL	RENO
CHEYENNE	KEARNY	REPUBLIC
CLARK	KINGMAN	RICE
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FOR RELEASE, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1964

Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today announced his support for the Senate amendment to H.R. 11865, the Social Security Act Amendments of 1964, which would increase the annual earnings limitation for those who receive Social Security benefits. Dole stated that he has urged the House conferees now meeting on H.R. 11865, to accept this amendment and reject the so called "Medicare" amendment.

Under existing law, Social Security beneficiaries can earn up to \$1200 annually without losing any benefits, but for each dollar earned above \$1200 and up to \$1700 the beneficiary loses 50¢ in benefits, and for each dollar earned above \$1700 per year, the beneficiary loses \$1.00 in benefits.

The Senate amendment would increase the annual earnings limitation to \$1500 and would provide that for every dollar earned between \$1500 and \$3000 a beneficiary would lose 50¢ in benefits and for every dollar earned over \$3000 a beneficiary would lose \$1.00 in benefits.

Dole pointed out that the earnings limitation of \$1200 a year has not been changed since 1954, whereas during that period, wage rates and living costs have substantially increased.

Dole stated, "The present \$1200 annual earnings limitation penalizes those persons who must work in order to augment their social security benefits and discourages many elder citizens who have valuable skills that can contribute materially to the economic well-being of the Nation." He noted that "the present limitation is discriminatory, in that persons who are over 72 years of age are permitted unlimited earnings without loss of benefits and individuals receiving investment income as opposed to earnings, are not denied benefits."

"Our Government continues to seek ways and means of improving the lot of our elder citizens, and this is one of the best and most immediate ways we can help those who wish to help themselves," Dole concluded.