

**BOB DOLE**  
 DISTRICT, KANSAS  
  
 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
 REA CODE 202  
 225-2715  
  
 COMMITTEES:  
 AGRICULTURE  
 MINMENT OPERATIONS  
  
 DISTRICT OFFICE:  
 FEDERAL BUILDING  
 BEND, KANSAS 67520  
 AREA CODE 316  
 SW 3-5423

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

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 CHEYENNE  
 CLARK  
 CLOUD  
 DECATUR  
 EDWARDS  
 ELLIS  
 ELLSWORTH  
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 KIOWA  
 LANE  
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CONGRESSMAN DOLE REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON FOR RELEASE: WEEK OF JUNE 5, 1967

ADMINISTRATION SCHEME TO TAX OLD-AGE BENEFITS IS OPPOSED

The Department of the Treasury has proposed to the House of Representatives that Social Security old-age monthly benefits and Railroad Retirement benefits be made subject to Federal income tax. The Johnson Administration plan to levy income taxes on Social Security benefits is a device to take from thousands of Americans who can least afford to pay. Moreover, the Administration proposes, thereby, to levy a tax on that which the beneficiary has already paid taxes.

In my opinion, to tax Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits would amount to double taxation. The same income would be taxed first when it was earned and second when it was paid in benefits. This is tantamount to giving with one hand while taking away with the other.

House Resolution 495 Expresses Opposition

On May 31, 1967, I introduced a Resolution to express the sense of the House of Representatives that Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits should be exempt from Federal income taxes. The Resolution emphasizes that inflation, which in itself is a form of hidden taxation, imposes especially heavy burdens on persons living on fixed incomes for their basic necessities.

A Penalty on Fixed Incomes

The price spiral of inflation, produced largely by the fiscal policies of the Administration, has seriously reduced the protection intended by the Social Security program. Millions of older Americans have watched their fixed pensions, savings, annuities, and Social Security benefits shrink in purchasing power.

There is strong opposition to the Administration's tax proposals to increase greatly the tax burden on a sizable proportion of the Nation's elderly citizens. To tax old-age benefits would harshly penalize those who have planned and saved over the years in anticipation of retirement.

Every American seeks to improve the world in which he lives so that his children may thrive and prosper from the fruits of his efforts. Surely Americans today owe something to the generation which has done the same for us--which helped build the society in which we thrive and prosper. Who is more entitled to share the fruits of our increased prosperity than our older citizens, who did so much to create it?