

FROM: OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE  
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510  
(202) 225-6521

(51)

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

WASHINGTON, D.C. MARCH 17 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today co sponsored the Draft Reform Act of 1969 designed to amend the Selective Service Act.

Introduced by U. S. Senator Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.), the bill provides:

- a one-year draft eligibility period
- uniform national standards
- a national manpower pool
- student deferments until age 25 or completion of education, whichever comes first
- a six-year term for the Director of Selective Service

Dole said, "My ultimate goal in revising the draft is to provide for meeting the manpower needs of the Armed Forces of the United States through a completely voluntary system of enlistments.

"In recent years," Dole said, "I have become convinced that the Selective Service System as presently constituted fails to fulfill its initial purpose in the best interest of American Society..."

The Senator said he believes the Nation will be operating under the present Selective Service System for some time to come. "However," he said, "In order to alleviate the deficiencies in the existing system and provide an eventual cure I have joined with other Senators in co sponsoring legislation to secure both interim and permanent relief."

Dole also co sponsored a voluntary army bill sponsored by Mark Hatfield, (R-Oreg.).

#####