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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., FEB. 16, 1971 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole today introduced legislation to provide for the disposition of funds to pay for three judgment awards by the Indian Claims Commission to the Indians of the Iowa Tribe of the Iowa Reservation in Kansas and Nebraska and of the Iowa Tribe of the Iowa Reservation in Oklahoma.

The funds, totaling \$5,956,413.67, represent payment for lands excluded from the Iowa Reservation ~~in~~ in Southeastern Nebraska by the Treaty of September 17, 1836; for additional payment of land sold in North ~~western~~ ^{eastern} Kansas under the Treaty of May 17, 1854; for additional payment to the Iowa Nation for its undivided one-half interest in land in Northeastern Iowa ceded under the Treaty of October 19, 1838; and for land in Southwestern Iowa ceded under the same Treaty.

Funds to pay these awards were appropriated by the Congress in Acts on December 26, 1969 and July 6, 1970.

"There is no controversy surrounding these awards," Dole said, "the Claims Commission has adjudged it; the Iowa Tribal Governments have agreed on the distribution scheme; and Congress has appropriated the funds to pay it."

"It is a particularly black mark in our nation's otherwise sorry treatment of our Indian people that we should be waiting six score and more years to consider funding these just and reasonable claims."

"It would be a further blemish on that record were Congress not to authorize the payment of these claims with all possible speed," Dole concluded.