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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 8 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today termed President Nixon's new economic policy "strong medicine," but added that "it is the right prescription." Speaking on the Senate floor today shortly after Congress reconvened, the Kansas Senator urged his colleagues to pledge themselves "to unite in this great effort."

(the complete text follows)

The Congress has reconvened at an auspicious time for America. The past several weeks, usually the height of the "slow news" session, have seen dramatic new developments on the foreign and domestic scenes. President Nixon's China initiative and his bold new policy for a prosperity based on peace have stirred the hearts and minds of the American people. In his August 15 speech on the economy, the President set out a clear-sighted, comprehensive plan to strengthen the American economy. It is strong medicine, but it is the right prescription, and poll after poll show that an overwhelming majority of Americans back their President's proposals.

Now it is up to us --- the men and women in the Congress --- to act in accordance with this clear national concensus. Both the minority and majority leadership of the House and the Senate have already given encouraging indications that the national economy, with its tremendous impact on the lives and welfare of millions of average, working Americans, will not become a political hostage. Their initial statements indicate that they will rally behind the President's prosperity program. I pledge myself to do the same, and I urge my colleagues, some of whom may have chosen a partisan, political course, to unite in this great effort.

Prosperity for America is a goal that should transcend personal ambitions and partisan considerations. The President's program is the best means of achieving that goal, and it clearly has the support of a strong majority of all of our constituents. I ask that all of us show this same vision and same bi-partisan spirit. I urge that all of us set aside thoughts of campaigning and political gains long enough to act on the prosperity package that the President has proposed and the American people have endorsed.

This Congress has the opportunity to go down in history as one that successfully met a great national challenge by rising above partisanship and serving national, not party, interests. I am confident that it will not fail, and that when the books are closed on this session, the record we leave behind will be one in which we, and the people, can take pride.