



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C., OCT. 2, 1972 -- Senator Bob Dole today announced Senate passage of legislation he introduced to extend the expiration date for certain powers of attorney executed by members of the armed forces who are missing in action or prisoners of war in Indochina.

The need for this legislation was called to Senator Dole's attention by the Kansas City, Kansas, wife of a serviceman who has been a prisoner of war since 1966. She had been unable to obtain a loan to buy a home, because her husband's power of attorney had expired after he was captured.

The bill was introduced to solve a problem faced by many wives and other relatives of prisoners and missing men who had been granted powers of attorney to conduct family business while the men were in combat and far from home. In numerous cases these powers of attorney have expired after the serviceman was taken prisoner or listed as missing. The result has been that it is impossible for the wives and children and other relatives who hold these legal powers to deal with many important family matters -- such as buying and selling real estate, disposing of stocks and bonds and conducting other transactions -- which require the serviceman's authorization.

The effect of Senator Dole's bill would be to make such powers of attorney valid for the entire period of time a serviceman is officially listed in prisoner or missing status.

"I am hopeful that this bill can receive speedy House approval and become law, so we can help to ease the tremendous and often unusual burdens experienced by the families of prisoners and missing men," Dole said today.