

279



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- In a statement on the Senate floor today, Senator Bob Dole joined with Senator James Allen in offering an amendment to prevent automatic pay increases for Members of Congress.

Dole said, "there is never a good time to raise congressional salaries, that is a political fact of life. However, there is a time and place for everything, and now -- in the middle of the fight against inflation -- is no time to boost congressional salaries or to put in motion a mechanism which will do so automatically every two years."

"In my view, Congress should receive pay increases by appropriate amounts and at appropriate time, but in all fairness I do not feel we should have these increases handed to us at a time which millions of Americans are being told to practice restraint and pitch in to control the economy."

"If any member of Congress believes he is entitled to a pay raise the least that can be expected of him is to stand up on the floor of the House or the Senate and be recorded publicly as favoring it. I do not believe the requirement of an up or down vote on this issue is too much to expect of us," Dole added.