



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 13, 1973

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Following yesterday's House action sustaining the President's veto, Senator Bob Dole today sponsored a new version of the Emergency Medical Services Bill, in an effort to secure funding for needed emergency services.

The new bill is identical to the vetoed version except that funding for 8 Public Health Service hospitals has been dropped. It was this provision which provided the focal point of administration opposition to the original bill.

Dole, who in August voted to override the veto, indicates strong support for the new bill. "It is a good bill, and needs improvement in perhaps only one area -- the level of assistance for rural areas. I intend however, to try to amend the bill on the floor to expand rural area assistance under the bill," Dole said.

The Senate wasted no time in acting on the new bill. Meeting in executive session this afternoon, the Labor and Public Welfare Committee approved the bill without any amendments and cleared it for floor action possibly as early as next week. A similar bill has also been introduced in the House.

The Emergency Medical Services Bill would provide \$185 million for the planning, development, and improvement of emergency medical care equipment used to provide immediate care to accident victims and victims of sudden illnesses.