



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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## AMENDMENT PASSED TO ALLOW RECOMPUTATION IN MILITARY RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Senate today voted to allow a recomputation in military retirement benefits, an action which will correct what Senator Bob Dole characterized as "an inequity in the system which has existed uncorrected since 1958."

The action came in an amendment to the Military Procurement Authorization Bill being debated on the Senate floor today. The amendment, which was co-sponsored by Senator Dole, passed 78-14. It allows a one-time recomputation to servicemen who have reached age 60 or who have a 30 percent or greater disability.

Recomputation of military pay was historically a system of adjusting retirement pay upward whenever the pay of the active duty forces was increased. Beginning in 1963 this method of providing equitable adjustments for military retirement pay was changed. Adjustments were then provided on the basis of cost-of-living system each time the Consumer Price Index increased by 3 per cent. "However," Dole said, "the consumer price increase has not increased on the same scale as active duty pay scales, and the resulting inequity is unfair in view of the history of previous military authorizations." The exclusion of a recomputation provision from the final bill approved by the Congress for Fiscal 1973 resulted in the fact that men retiring today make in some cases 1 to 1 1/2 times the retired pay that pre-1958 retirees of the same rank and years of service make.

"The retiree at age 60," said Dole, "has in most cases reached the end of his active work career and the assurance of an equitable adjustment will provide security to those approaching that age and allow them the dignity they have earned through their service to their country."