



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE SEES TOUGH DECISIONS AHEAD ON ECONOMY, ENERGY IN 1975

Washington, D. C. -- Senator Bob Dole says he sees an increasing likelihood of a tax cut, "probably limited to one year" being implemented relatively early in the coming year.

"Clearly, the economy, poses twin threats of inflation and recession, and energy policy carries with it the continuing demand for serious conservation efforts. Both areas are going to be the dominant policy questions in 1975," Dole says. In the Kansas Senator's view, it will be "surprising" if President Ford devotes much of his State of the Union message to any thing but these problems and the need for action on them. "Everything, certainly including our national security itself, is dependent on our approach to and success in solving these problems," Dole says.

Dole adds that he personally rules out the options of renewed wage and price controls, and would in the same spirit, oppose gas rationing as unnecessary and unwise impositions of bureaucracy on problems that "need no further bureaucratic confusion factors. Some would call these tough measures. I view them as probably counter-productive," Dole says.

Dole expresses support for a temporary tax cut, both for individuals and businesses. "The middle and lower income taxpayer needs relief desperately from the rising costs brought on by inflation. Some early stimulus to business might help hasten a recovery in the unemployment situation nationally and help Kansas, where unemployment is still relatively low, avoid any economic dislocation on a similar scale."

Dole says he looks forward to hearing the President's specific proposals and "welcomed the week-end promise of 'Tough talk' on the economy" from the White House. He adds that we must be fair and not demand from the President the whole answer in one neat package. "I note that the House Ways and Means Committee, which must initiate such action for the Congress, has set consideration of a tax cut for low and middle income citizens as its first order of business," Dole says, noting the fact as "a hopeful sign of some serious congressional intent to get to work in a prompt and substantive way on the problems of the economy."