



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE CRITICIZES "REFORMERS" ON TAX INDEXATION VOTE

"The tax reform disguise has now been stripped off the self-proclaimed reformers in the Senate," said Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas) in a statement released today.

"Every one of these so-called tax reform advocates voted against the simplest and single most important tax reform in the entire tax debate. The Taft-Dole amendment would have eliminated the inflation tax from our personal income tax system."

Dole was referring to an amendment, defeated in the Senate yesterday, which would have automatically adjusted income tax brackets to take account of inflation. It is estimated that the amendment would have saved lower and middle income taxpayers some \$40 billion over the next four years.

"By rejecting this amendment, these 'tax reformers' have clearly confirmed their dedication -- not to tax equity -- but rather to higher taxes, higher government spending, more inflation, and continued inflationary taxation.

"By eliminating the unlegislated and unjust tax increase generated by inflation, the tax indexing proposal would do more to benefit Americans of middle and low incomes than all the grand social spending schemes of the big government reformers.

"Because the design of these big spenders -- for Humphrey-Hawkins government jobs, for national health insurance, and the like -- are widely recognized, the Senate has repeatedly rejected their efforts to raise taxes by revoking what they consider to be loopholes.

"The tax reformers didn't even appear on the Senate floor to state their reasons, leaving instead the Chairman of the Finance Committee to raise the feeble objection that eliminating the automatic inflation tax increase might cause larger budget deficits. They were not present to explain why it isn't possible to fight the budget deficit by weeding out wasteful and duplicative government spending, to explain why the budget must be balanced out of the taxpayer's paycheck rather than out of the government's bloated payroll.

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