



SENATOR BOB DOLE

Temporary Chairman

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DOLE PROPOSES REPUBLICAN PLATFORM ECONOMIC POLICY

Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas), Temporary Chairman of the Republican National Convention, today told the Republican Platform Committee that "it must be clear that we stand for permanent, productive, private employment without inflation and without government control."

A member of the Platform Committee, Dole stated that "unless our policies are balanced and focused on both inflation and unemployment, both problems will persist and plague our society."

Dole criticized the Democrats' support of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Bill in Congress. "By turning their backs on any genuine concern about inflation, the Democrats have abandoned middle and lower income Americans and the working poor." He noted that "their answer to unemployment is government spending and dead-end government jobs. Their answer to the inflation this causes is government control of prices and paychecks."

In contrasting his party's approach to economic policies, Dole stated: "The Republican Party recognizes that our economy can achieve and maintain a level of employment which realizes the full potential of our free enterprise economy only in a non-inflationary environment in conjunction with balanced federal budgets and an efficient federal government."

Following are excerpts from testimony by Senator Dole to the Platform Committee:

The goals of high employment, stable prices, and budgetary moderation are complementary. We must pledge ourselves to policies which guide but do not coerce the economy to the highest levels of permanent, productive, private employment.

The Republican Party should advocate government assistance to enhance opportunities for all Americans by means of a tax credit for expanded private enterprise employment. This approach has the added advantage of reducing inflation.

The Republican Party should call for real tax reform. We must redefine the basic principles on which our tax laws should be based, the ground rules to guide the full efforts of the Executive Branch and Congress to construct an entirely new tax code... by sweeping away the multitude of special tax provisions, we can have lower basic tax rates for individuals and businesses alike.

The Republican Party must make clear to the American people that fundamental to our approach to high employment and economic prosperity is business and consumer confidence in our free enterprise economy. The Republican Party can sustain that confidence by pledging a government that recognizes the potential of the private economy and the limits of economic policy.

We must call for a thorough, analytical, and impartial evaluation and revision of all government programs. The primary cause of the proliferation of government programs and the runaway growth of government spending is the failure of Congress to oversee the laws it has enacted in the past.