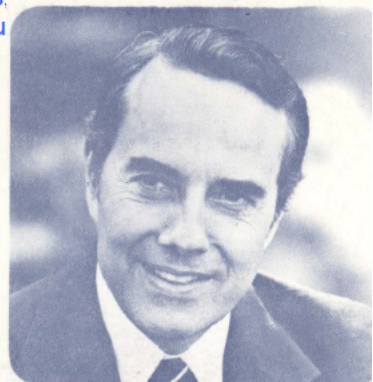


News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1980

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DOLE APPLAUDS COURT DECISION DECLARING CARTER OIL IMPORT FEE UNLAWFUL

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) applauded today's ruling by Federal Judge Aubrey Robinson which declared President Carter's 10-cent-a-gallon oil import fee unlawful.

"I and many others in Congress have insisted from the moment this import fee was announced by the President that this tax exceeded the powers of the executive branch," Dole said. "The court today confirmed that the President does not have the authority to unilaterally impose such a tax, and it is clear that this is a power best left to the United States Congress. In passing the Trade Expansion Act and the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act, Congress never intended to abrogate its taxing powers to the executive branch.

"I have been vocal in my objections that this gas tax is not only legally questionable, but bad policy as well. I am pleased that this action will apparently provide us in Congress with more time to mobilize forces to kill this ill-advised measure for good.

"The Administration was clearly having a hard time convincing either the Congress or the American people that this tax was either a conservation or an anti-inflation measure, as they had claimed.

"Yesterday the Senate clearly voiced its strong disapproval by adopting my amendment to the First Concurrent Budget Resolution, which paved the way for an ultimate vote of disapproval. I am glad to have the opportunity to rally a majority of my colleagues to see to it that this issue is not resurrected.

"Tomorrow the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee will debate resolutions by me and other senators to effectively block the imposition of the import fee. S.J. Res. 159, which I introduced, now has won the support of 34 senators.

"The timeliness of Judge Robinson's decision is especially welcome, for if the oil import fee and the subsequent gasoline tax had gone into effect on May 15, it would have been extremely difficult for the consumers to recover the costs."