

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1982

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DOLE PLEASSED WITH SENATOR BAKER'S CALL FOR A
SPECIAL SESSION ON SOCIAL SECURITY

TOPEKA, KANSAS -- At a press conference this afternoon, Senator Robert Dole (R.-Kan.) said he was pleased with Senator Howard Baker's call for a special congressional session in early January to deal with the financial problems of the Social Security system.

"I am pleased and encouraged by the majority leader's call. I am glad Senator Baker agrees with me that a special time is needed to deal solely with the tremendous challenge of saving the Social Security system," Dole said. "We also agree that this special time must come before the budget process begins on Capitol Hill, otherwise Congress will be accused of trying to balance the budget on the back of the Social Security system."

"Although I still favor the so-called window of opportunity just after the November elections, at this point the exact date for the session is not important. What is important is that there is growing recognition that prompt and courageous action is needed if the system is to survive," Dole said. "Once there is an understanding of Social Security's critical condition, the people who now receive benefits, those who pay into the system, and those who expect to benefit from it in the future, will demand congressional action."

"There is no longer any time for demagoguery or game-playing -- there's too little time and too much at stake," Dole concluded.