

# News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

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CONTACT: SCOTT RICHARDSON  
(202) 224-6521

## DOLE COMMENDS FCC DECISION ON TELEPHONE ACCESS CHARGES

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) today praised the Federal Communication Commission's tentative decision to modify its "access charge orders".

"I am pleased that the FCC has tentatively adopted a position similar to the compromise position suggested by the 32 Senators in our letter to the Commission," said Dole. "The Commission has delayed a final order so that all other parties will be given an additional opportunity to comment on the proposed modifications."

"Senator Packwood deserves a great deal of credit for his effort in focusing the attention of Congress on the problems that would ensue if the "access charge orders" were allowed to take effect this year. The signatories to yesterday's letter believed that we had identified a compromise solution which would obviate the need for Congressional action this year," said Dole.

"Early indications are that the Commission shares our conclusions. Of course, if the Commission fails to make this order final, it may still be necessary for Congress to legislate. My preference that Congress not legislate hastily on these complex issues is heightened by the Commission's recognition that these issues deserve additional study," said Dole.

"The FCC's decision will reduce the impact of changes in the telephone industry on residential and small business customers, particularly those in rural areas of the country," Dole said. "For the long haul, the Commission has reserved what I believe to be absolutely necessary flexibility to respond to the rapidly changing telecommunications industry."