

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 1984

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REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE  
WOMEN'S RESEARCH AND EDUCATION INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

IT IS A PLEASURE TO ADDRESS THIS YEAR'S WOMEN'S RESEARCH AND EDUCATION INSTITUTE CONFERENCE. DUE IN NO SMALL PART TO WOMEN'S RISING POLITICAL INFLUENCE, ELECTED OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ARE ASKING MORE AND MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW VARIOUS POLICIES IMPACT UPON WOMEN. AND THE PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM ARE HELPING US FIND ANSWERS.

CLOSING THE FIRST CHAPTER

RECENTLY, THE SENATE PASSED A BILL TO ELIMINATE MOST OF THE REMAINING FEDERAL LAWS WHICH OVERTLY DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF SEX. THE BILL, S. 501, WHICH I SPONSORED, IS THE RESULT OF A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE FEDERAL CODE UNDERTAKEN BY PRESIDENT REAGAN'S JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. SOME OF THE BILL WOULD SIMPLY CLEAN UP OBSOLETE REFERENCES, THOUGH A NUMBER OF THE CHANGES WOULD BE OF REAL BENEFIT TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS. INDEED, MY WIFE HAS SUGGESTED THAT SOME DAY I MIGHT PERSONALLY BENEFIT BY ONE CHANGE WHICH WOULD EXTEND SECRET SERVICE PROTECTION AND OTHER BENEFITS TO THE "HUSBANDS" AND "WIDOWERS" OF U.S. PRESIDENTS.

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

ROME LIBERATION CEREMONY - READING OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION  
Saturday, June 2, 1984 -- 4:00 a.m. EDT

President Pertini, Prime Minister Craxi, Mayor Vetere, distinguished guests, fellow soldiers:

After it began, a German field marshal said it was "of fateful importance for the conduct of the war." When it was over, Winston Churchill wrote that "the hinge had turned." Both men were referring to the long campaign that started in Sicily and rolled to its victorious conclusion nearly 600 days later -- the prolonged and bloody battle to set Italy free.

As one who fought in that battle, who spilled some of his own blood and left a bit of himself forever behind, it is a special honor to come back to a nation now blessed with the fruits of peace. It is a rare privilege to read the proclamation of my President, to greet his distinguished counterpart, and to join together in recalling both the horror and the heroism of forty years ago.

There are ghosts to keep us company this day, shades of men who surrendered their lives so that liberty might gain a foothold on this ancient boot of a peninsula. We remember them by the thousand -- and we remember as well singular individuals, like General Mark Clark, and the members of the elite First Special Service Force who fought under two flags.

We who took part in the fighting bless the subsequent peace. We hail the friendship that grew out of hostility and we pledge ourselves anew to the cause for which so many gave so much. The man who then occupied the Presidency of my country was Franklin D. Roosevelt. "We have learned by hard experience," he wrote, "that peace is not to be had for the mere asking; that peace, like other great privileges, can be obtained only by hard and painstaking effort."

General Marshall, architect of victory in Europe, put it still more bluntly: "The only way to win a war," he declared, "is to prevent it."

For most of the forty years since the liberation of this historic citadel of western civilization, the west has followed their advice. Italy and the United States have joined with other nations in patrolling the global landscape and preserving the peace. It has required much of us, in manpower, in money, and above all, in spiritual and national resolve. Yet who among us, can look out over Italian fields and see in memory's eye the agony of 1944 -- yet doubt the necessity of our sacrifice or the sacredness of our cause?

This is a day to pause and pay tribute to men who gave everything they had. No less important, it is a time to rededicate ourselves to be worthy of what they gave. The fighting ended long ago. Yet the dangers persist. The need for unity is ever present. So let us resolve: so long as human freedom is threatened, then we will keep our watch. We will take to heart the lessons of the Italian campaign. And we will pay heed to the cautionary warnings of Roosevelt, Marshall, and all the other ghosts who haunt this crowded field of history.

May God give us the strength to do what history tells us is right. And may each one of us find the wisdom to do what our children demand. For then we will not be content to unveil or deliver speeches. Instead, a world at peace, and a people living in freedom, will be the greatest of mankind's monuments.



PROPOSAL WHICH PASSED THE SENATE LAST NOVEMBER. THE BILL INCLUDES PROVISIONS WHICH WOULD LOWER THE MINIMUM AGE FOR PARTICIPATION AND VESTING, LIBERALIZE CERTAIN BREAK-IN-SERVICE RULES, AND SIGNIFICANTLY EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS. RECENTLY, THE HOUSE PASSED SIMILAR LEGISLATION AND WE SHOULD BE GOING TO CONFERENCE SOON.

THE SECOND AREA IS STRENGTHENING THE FEDERAL CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM. CURRENTLY, THERE ARE WIDE VARIATIONS IN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF STATE EFFORTS UNDER THE PROGRAM AND HEAVY ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS BORNE PRIMARILY BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. CLEARLY, THE PROGRAM SHOULD DO A BETTER JOB FOR THE 8.4 MILLION WOMEN RAISING CHILDREN ALONE, ONLY A FRACTION OF WHOM ACTUALLY RECEIVE FULL CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS.

BUILDING UPON THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS, THE FINANCE COMMITTEE DEVELOPED A BILL WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WOULD REQUIRE STATES TO USE CERTAIN PROCEDURES OF PROVEN EFFECTIVENESS IN THE OPERATION OF THEIR PROGRAMS, AND WOULD ALSO REWARD STATES FOR COLLECTIONS MADE ON BEHALF OF BOTH AFDC AND NON-AFDC FAMILIES. RECENTLY, THE SENATE UNANIMOUSLY PASSED THE BILL. THE HOUSE HAS APPROVED SIMILAR LEGISLATION. WE ARE NOW WAITING FOR THE HOUSE TO DISAGREE

TO THE SENATE AMENDMENTS AND REQUEST A CONFERENCE.

### NEW CHALLENGES

ANOTHER AREA THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MAY BE LOOKING AT IN THE FUTURE IS SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM. THE BASIC STRUCTURE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM WAS ESTABLISHED NEARLY A HALF CENTURY AGO, AND IS CONSISTENT WITH A PATTERN OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS IN WHICH MARRIAGES LASTED A LIFETIME, WOMEN WERE MOTHERS AND HOMEMAKERS, AND MEN WERE THE SOURCE OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT. BUT PROFOUND CHANGES HAVE SINCE TAKEN PLACE. WOMEN ARE NOW AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE PAID WORK FORCE AND A SIGNIFICANT, OFTENTIMES THE SOLE, SOURCE OF ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR THEIR FAMILIES. THUS, THERE IS BROAD SUPPORT FOR CRITICALLY REEXAMINING THE IMPACT OF THE SYSTEM ON WOMEN.

LAST YEAR'S FINANCING BILL CALLED FOR A STUDY BY HHS ON THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING EARNINGS SHARING PROPOSALS. IT IS MY HOPE THAT THIS STUDY, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR COMPREHENSIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARINGS.

A FURTHER AREA OF CRUCIAL CONCERN TO WOMEN WHICH THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE DEALING WITH IS HEALTH CARE -- SPECIFICALLY, MEDICARE AND MEDICAID.

THE NUMBER OF PERSONS OVER AGE 65 IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE 40% BY THE YEAR 2000; THE NUMBER OVER AGE 85 IS EXPECTED TO GROW A STARTLING 91%. THIS GROWTH IN THE ELDERLY POPULATION WILL CAUSE A SERIOUS STRAIN ON THE NATION'S HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEMS, WITH POTENTIALLY ENORMOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR WOMEN IN PARTICULAR.

IT'S BECOMING APPARENT THAT WE MUST BEGIN SHIFTING OUR FOCUS FROM THE ACUTE HEALTH CARE MARKET TO THE LONG-TERM HEALTH CARE MARKET. CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS HAVE MADE LONG-TERM CARE SPENDING THE FASTEST GROWING SEGMENT OF THE U.S. HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY. THUS, FINANCING HAS BECOME A MAJOR CONCERN FOR CITIZENS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS ALIKE. BUT TWO QUESTIONS REMAIN: WHO SHALL PAY FOR THESE SERVICES AND FOR WHAT SERVICES SHALL WE PAY.

SLOWING THE GROWTH OF LONG-TERM EXPENDITURES AND AGREEING ON THE MIX OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS AREA NEED FURTHER DISCUSSION. SO TOO, THE ISSUE OF SERVICE MIX. MOST LONG-TERM CARE IS NOW BEING PROVIDED IN COSTLY INSTITUTIONS. A REDIRECTION OF THIS FUNDING PATTERN TOWARD MORE HOME - OR COMMUNITY - BASED CARE IS LONG OVERDUE.

## THE DEFICIT

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE PENSION AND CHILD SUPPORT BILLS WILL BE OF IMPORTANT ECONOMIC BENEFIT TO WOMEN, AND THAT FURTHER REFORMS CAN BE ENACTED IN SOCIAL SECURITY AND OTHER AREAS. UNFORTUNATELY THE BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED BY THESE TYPE REFORMS COULD BE WIPED OUT IF NOTHING IS DONE TO REDUCE THE DEFICIT.

UNDER THE MOST OPTIMISTIC OF ASSUMPTIONS, THE DEFICIT WILL REMAIN AT \$200 BILLION DOLLAR LEVELS OVER THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, UNLESS DRASTIC ACTION IS TAKEN. VIRTUALLY ALL ECONOMISTS AGREE THAT THESE SUSTAINED ENORMOUS DEFICITS WILL BE ECONOMICALLY HARMFUL. THUS, CONSIDER, IF YOU WILL, AN ELDERLY WIDOW WHOSE FIXED INCOME IS EATEN AWAY BY REKINDLED INFLATION. OR A YOUNG WIFE WHOSE FAMILY IS UNABLE TO PURCHASE A HOME BECAUSE OF HIGH INTEREST RATES. OR THE SINGLE MOTHER WHO IS FORCED BACK ONTO THE WELFARE ROLES BECAUSE HER JOB IS EXPORTED AWAY BY AN ABNORMALLY STRONG DOLLAR. THESE ARE VERY REAL SCENARIOS.

THE PRESIDENT TOOK THE LEAD ON CUTTING THE DEFICIT IN 1984 BY CALLING FOR A \$100 BILLION DOLLAR REDUCTION OVER 3 YEARS. HE



SUBSEQUENTLY WORKED WITH CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICANS TO OUTLINE A \$150 BILLION DOLLAR PACKAGE. THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE PACKAGE WERE RECENTLY PASSED BY THE SENATE.

THIS "DOWNPAYMENT" WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DENT IN THE DEFICIT, BUT MUCH MORE WILL HAVE TO BE DONE IN THE YEARS AHEAD. I INVITE YOU TO LEND YOUR SUPPORT TO THESE EFFORTS. HELP US LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHAT THE DEFICITS MEAN TO THE AVERAGE WOMAN, AND MAN.

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU ON THESE ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND CONCERN, AND AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO SPEAK.