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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1986

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DOLE CALLS HOUSE DEFENSE NUMBER IRRESPONSIBLE AND UNREALISTIC

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.) commended the House Budget Committee for moving the budget process forward by reporting out a fiscal 1987 budget. But Dole called the House Budget Committee's defense levels "irresponsible and totally unrealistic."

"Many think the Senate went too far when it reduced defense spending authority to \$301 billion. But the House's \$285 billion level is irresponsible and totally unrealistic." Dole said.

"I hope that between now and the time the House votes on the budget, a majority of members will see the folly in the House Budget Committee's plan. Congress -- both the House and Senate -- have made decisions about defense spending that are now being implemented. We can not, we should not back out of this commitment to our national security now. There is much more at stake than political gain," Dole concluded.

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