

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 20, 1986

CONTACT: BRENT BAHLER
(202) 224-6521

SENATE OK'S DOLE AMENDMENT ON DEDUCTION FOR HANDICAPPED WORKERS

Washington, DC -- An amendment offered by Kansas Sen. Bob Dole to allow severely handicapped workers to deduct the cost of attendant care services and other expenses necessary for employment was approved today by the Senate during debate on tax reform legislation.

In offering the amendment, Sen. Dole said the Senate Finance Committee "failed to take into account the major expenses for severely handicapped individuals who are willing and able to work if they can obtain special assistance."

"Often these expenses are so large, such as the cost of attendant care, for example, that absent the deduction a handicapped individual might be unable to afford to take a job that would otherwise be possible," said Sen. Dole.

In most cases, Dole noted, small expenditures are paid for by the employer who, in turn, deducts the amount as a business expense.

"Of course," said Sen. Dole, "an employer might be willing to adjust the employee's compensation and pay for the additional costs and then deduct them. But many employers may be reluctant to do so since it might be simpler to hire someone else."

The Dole amendment also includes a technical change in the IRS' definition of life insurance contracts to allow certain small burial policies to qualify for tax purposes.

To offset the project five-year, \$100 million loss in revenues caused by the amendment, Sen. Dole proposes to conform the treatment of interest paid on loans from life insurance policies.

The Dole amendment was approved without objection.