

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE ON ROSTENKOWSKI DEFICIT PROPOSAL

DAN ROSTENKOWSKI HAS CORRECTLY CHALLENGED CONGRESS, THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO FACE UP TO PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE: THE FEDERAL DEFICIT.

HIS PROPOSAL COULD BE THE WAKE-UP CALL WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR -- WE'LL SEE WHO ANSWERS IT. THE QUESTION IS, WHERE IS THE DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP ON THIS ONE? ARE THEY WITH DAN MAKING THE TOUGH CHOICES, OR ARE THEY SCRAMBLING FOR A WAY TO DUCK THEM? IF THEY'RE ON BOARD, THEN WE HAVE A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

I DON'T AGREE WITH EVERYTHING CHAIRMAN ROSTENKOWSKI HAS RECOMMENDED, BUT HE CERTAINLY HAS SCORED SOME HOLES-IN-ONE: INVESTING THE SO-CALLED PEACE DIVIDEND IN DEFICIT REDUCTION, AND PROPOSING A ONE-YEAR FREEZE IN FEDERAL SPENDING.

THERE IS MUCH MORE THE ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS CAN AND SHOULD DO. FOR STARTERS, WE CAN CLOSE MORE TAX LOOPHOLES. WE MIGHT ALSO TAKE A LOOK AT TARGETING HIS PROPOSED GASOLINE TAX INCREASE TO HELP REPAIR OUR CRUMBLING ROADS, HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

MEANWHILE, I AM READY TO SIT DOWN WITH ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OR REALITIES.

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