

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE APPLAUDS SUPREME COURT'S "FAST TRACK" FOR FLAG PROTECTION QUESTION

WASHINGTON - SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE TODAY MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AFTER THE SUPREME COURT AGREED TO DECIDE BY EARLY SUMMER THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE 1989 FEDERAL LAW MAKING IT A CRIME TO BURN THE AMERICAN FLAG.

"THE COURT'S DECISION TO PUT THIS ISSUE ON THE FAST TRACK IS GREAT NEWS FOR THE FLAG, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND THOSE OF US IN CONGRESS WHO WANT OLD GLORY TO HAVE THE PROTECTION IT DESERVES. TWO LOWER COURTS HAVE ALREADY CONFIRMED WHAT I PREDICTED LAST YEAR -- THE FLAG STATUTE FLUNKS THE CONSTITUTIONALITY TEST. AND THAT'S WHY THE FLAG BURNERS HAVE BEEN HAVING A FIELD DAY AT OLD GLORY'S EXPENSE.

NOW THE COURT HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SETTLE THE ISSUE IN A TIMELY MANNER -- WHETHER THIS STATUTE IS THE AIRTIGHT LAW THAT ITS AUTHORS CLAIMED, OR IF CONGRESS WILL BE FORCED THIS SUMMER TO RECONSIDER THE 27TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION TO PRESERVE OUR NATION'S MOST CHERISHED SYMBOL."

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