

Bob Dole



**NEWS
FROM:**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 21, 1992

CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

NEW SESSION BEGINS

**102ND CONGRESS: NO MORE BUSINESS AS USUAL -- END POLITICAL GAMES
TO SOLVE AMERICA'S PROBLEMS; PEOPLE ARE DISILLUSIONED, DOLE SAYS**

CONGRESS IS BACK IN TOWN. IT IS ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER SESSION, WITH ANOTHER STATE OF THE UNION JUST AROUND THE CORNER. BUT BEFORE ANYONE STARTS BELIEVING THAT ALL THESE FACTS ADD UP TO "BUSINESS AS USUAL", LET ME TELL YOU HOW DEAD WRONG THAT ASSUMPTION WOULD BE.

THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY ISSUES -- TOO MANY PROBLEMS -- DEMANDING OUR ATTENTION FOR US TO BEGIN THIS SESSION OF CONGRESS WITH A BUSINESS-AS-USUAL ATTITUDE.

WHETHER IT IS THE ECONOMY, HEALTH CARE, DRUGS AND CRIME, TAX RELIEF, AGRICULTURE, OR WHATEVER, THIS CONGRESS HAS ONE SIMPLE ASSIGNMENT: DO SOMETHING, AND DO IT QUICKLY FOR A CHANGE.

NO MORE BUSINESS AS USUAL

LET'S FACE IT, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT STAND FOR BUSINESS-AS-USUAL. THEY ARE FED UP, FRUSTRATED AND FRANKLY DISILLUSIONED WITH WHAT WE ARE DOING, OR NOT DOING HERE IN WASHINGTON.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE DEMANDING ACTION. THEY WILL SIMPLY NOT ACCEPT THE SAME OLD PARTISAN POSTURING, POLITICAL GAMES AND CONGRESSIONAL GRIDLOCK THAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVING THEM FOR TOO LONG NOW.

YOU CAN'T GO ANYWHERE THESE DAYS WITHOUT HEARING THE PEOPLE, AND HEARING THEM LOUDLY AND CLEARLY -- "DO SOMETHING, AND DO IT QUICKLY FOR A CHANGE," THEY ARE TELLING US.

WELL, IT IS TIME TO LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE -- EVEN ON CAPITOL HILL, EVEN IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AND, YES, EVEN IN AN ELECTION YEAR.

OH, THE TEMPTATION WILL BE GREAT, WHAT WITH ELECTION DAY ONLY 288 DAYS AWAY. THE TEMPTATION WILL BE GREAT, INDEED, TO BLOCK ANYTHING THE PRESIDENT MIGHT WANT TO DO, OR PLAY GAMES WITH SOME DEMOCRAT OR REPUBLICAN INITIATIVE.

I KNOW A LOT OF ATTENTION IS BEING PAID THESE DAYS TO POLLS AND PRESIDENTIAL POPULARITY. NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, THE PRESIDENT IS THE BIGGEST TARGET IN TOWN -- NO ONE UNDERSTANDS THIS BETTER THAN GEORGE BUSH; HE KNOWS IT COMES WITH THE TERRITORY.

CRITICS CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS

SO LET'S BE HONEST. IT'S PRETTY EASY TO CRITICIZE THE PRESIDENT FOR THE NATION'S PROBLEMS, BUT HIS CRITICS CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS: THEY CAN'T BLOCK EVERY PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE AND THEN BLAME HIM FOR NOT GETTING THE JOB DONE; THEY CAN'T DISMISS EVERY PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE AS "INADEQUATE" WHEN THEIR ONLY RESPONSE IS TO SEE HOW MANY TAXPAYERS DOLLARS THEY CAN SPEND; AND NO CRITIC -- NO PARTY -- CAN CLAIM A MONOPOLY ON COMPASSION FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT CONGRESS IS JUST AS ACCOUNTABLE AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THEY SEE CONGRESS AS PART OF THE PROBLEM, NOT THE SOLUTION -- AND THEY'LL BE TAKING NAMES.

IT'S NO WONDER THEY ARE FED-UP WITH THE "BUSINESS-AS-USUAL" CONGRESSIONAL AGENDA.

SO, IF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TO BELIEVE ALL THE RHETORIC AND ALL THE SPEECHES THEY'VE BEEN HEARING SINCE CONGRESS LEFT TOWN A MONTH-AND-A-HALF AGO ABOUT THE ECONOMY AND HEALTH CARE AND ALL THE OTHER CHALLENGES FACING US THIS YEAR, THEN WE'D BETTER START DELIVERING INSTEAD OF JUST COMPLAINING, OR PROMISING.

IT IS TIME TO MAKE THE PEOPLE'S AGENDA OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY AROUND HERE INSTEAD OF OUR NEXT ELECTION.

MY GUESS IS THAT ANYONE IGNORING THIS ADVICE COULD WELL BE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER LINE OF WORK COME 1993.

###