

Bob Dole



NEWS

U . S . S E N A T O R F O R K A N S A S

FROM:

S E N A T E R E P U B L I C A N L E A D E R

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 14, 1992

CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
(202) 224-5358

## MOTOR VOTER ALTERNATIVE

HELP CASH-STRAPPED STATES REGISTER VOTERS,  
DON'T SOCK THEM WITH MULTIMILLION DOLLAR MANDATES

I RISE IN SUPPORT OF THE DOLE-STEVEN'S SUBSTITUTE.

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT NO MATTER HOW NOBLE THE IDEAS  
ADVANCED IN THE MOTOR-VOTER BILL, THE STATES SIMPLY CAN'T AFFORD  
IT.

EIGHT STATES, INCLUDING MY STATE OF KANSAS, ESTIMATED THAT  
THE TOTAL COST OF COMPLYING WITH THIS BILL'S REQUIREMENTS WOULD  
BE \$80 MILLION. THE TOTAL COST FOR ALL 50 STATES WOULD OBVIOUSLY  
BE MUCH HIGHER.

WE'VE GOT A LAW HERE IN CONGRESS NOW WHERE IF SOMEONE  
PROPOSED A NEW PROGRAM, THEY ALSO HAVE TO FIND THE MONEY FOR IT.  
I THINK IT WOULD ONLY BE FAIR TO APPLY THAT SAME LAW TO THIS  
BILL.

I ASK MY FRIENDS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE AISLE, HOW WOULD  
YOU LIKE THE STATES TO PAY FOR YOUR LEGISLATION? DO YOU WANT  
THEM TO CUT THEIR EDUCATION BUDGETS? HOW ABOUT THEIR CHILD  
NUTRITION PROGRAMS? OR MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST TELL THEM TO RAISE  
THEIR STATE TAXES, AND PASS THE COSTS ALONG TO THE TAXPAYERS.

IT'S NO WONDER THAT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES,  
THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION, AND THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF  
CITIES HAVE ALL CALLED FOR THE DEMOCRATS' MOTOR VOTER BILL TO BE  
SENT TO THE REPAIR SHOP.

INSTEAD OF FORCING SOMETHING ON THE STATES, WHY DON'T WE  
LEND THEM A HELPING HAND?

AND THAT'S JUST WHAT THE STEVEN'S-DOLE SUBSTITUTE WOULD DO,  
BY PROVIDING PROVIDING GRANTS TO STATES TO HELP THEM SET UP MOTOR  
VOTER PROGRAMS.

AS SENATOR STEVEN'S POINTED OUT -- THE STATES, AS THEY SO  
OFTEN DO, HAVE BEATEN US TO THE PUNCH.

FULLY 27 STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ALREADY PROVIDE  
CITIZENS AN OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER TO VOTE WHEN APPLYING FOR  
THEIR DRIVER'S LICENSES. 17 OTHER STATES ARE CURRENTLY STUDYING  
SIMILAR LEGISLATION.

INSTEAD OF ALLOWING THE STATES TO DETERMINE WHAT WORKS BEST  
FOR THEM, AS WELL AS TO DETERMINE WHAT THEY CAN AFFORD, MY  
DEMOCRAT FRIENDS CAN'T RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO MANDATE A "ONE  
SIZE FITS ALL" REQUIREMENT -- A REQUIREMENT WHICH MANY CASH-  
STRAPPED STATES SIMPLY CAN NOT AFFORD.

OUR SUBSTITUTE IS MORE FLEXIBLE, COSTS FAR LESS, BEEFS UP  
FEDERAL AND STATE EFFORTS TO COMBAT ELECTION FRAUD AND PUBLIC  
CORRUPTION, AND -- MOST IMPORTANTLY -- OUR SUBSTITUTE WILL BE  
SIGNED INTO LAW BY THE PRESIDENT.

AND THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE. WE'VE PLAYED THIS GAME BEFORE.  
THE DEMOCRAT BILL WILL PROBABLY PASS THE SENATE. THE PRESIDENT  
WILL VETO IT. AND THE VETO WILL BE SUSTAINED. AND ABSOLUTELY  
NOTHING WILL HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

WHY DON'T WE DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR A CHANGE. WHY DON'T  
WE ACTUALLY PASS A BILL THAT WILL BE SIGNED INTO LAW.

BUT AS WE SAW WITH CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM, THE MAJORITY  
PARTY WOULD RATHER PLAY POLITICAL GAMES, THAN HAVE MEANINGFUL  
REFORM SIGNED INTO LAW.

###