

**NEWS
FROM:**

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CAMPAIGN REFORM

Dole Rejects White House "Politician Protection Tax";
Republican Leader Outlines Principles for Real Reform

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole issued the following statement regarding the Administration's campaign finance reform proposal:

President Clinton's taxpayer-financing scheme really amounts to a politician protection tax. Despite the friendly "reform" label, it's nothing new or bold, it's a partisan package designed to protect the Democrat Congressional majority forever.

It's also unfortunate that the President has backtracked on his campaign promise to limit PAC contributions to \$1,000. His proposal appears to retain the current limit of \$5,000 for House candidates and lower the limit modestly to \$2,500 for Senate candidates. This is nothing more than business as usual.

From day one, Senate Republicans have been leading the charge for real campaign finance reform. Our reform plan would:

- * ban political action committees outright;
- * prohibit franked mass mailings in an election year;
- * restrict all soft money;
- * put a premium on in-state financing by lowering the out-of-state contribution limit to \$500; and
- * improve political competition by allowing the parties to give early seed money to viable challengers.

Republicans are able to accomplish all of these reform goals without asking the taxpayers to contribute a single dime.

If bipartisanship is not possible on this issue, Republicans will continue to fight for meaningful reform, including a no-exceptions, no-loophole, ban on PACs.

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