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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

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CONTACT: JANET ANDERSON

DOLE CRITICIZES CONGRESSIONAL DELAYS ON ENERGY LEGISLATION

Senator Bob Dole today criticized House Democrats for postponing indefinitely action on a comprehensive energy conservation bill. Dole labeled the continuing Congressional delay "inexcusable", and called upon the Democrat leadership to "begin floor consideration of responsible conservation legislation immediately".

Dole was reacting to the decision by the House Democrat Leadership yesterday which delayed sending a Ways and Means Committee energy bill to the full House for at least two weeks.

"It has been over four months since President Ford sent his comprehensive energy program to Congress. Since then Congress has been unable to come up with any alternative energy program which a majority is willing to support. The President has demonstrated his willingness to compromise. He has twice delayed the implementation of a major element of his own energy proposals in order to give Congress time to come up with a comprehensive bill. I'm beginning to wonder whether Congress will pass any meaningful energy conservation legislation this year," Dole said.

"Without responsible and comprehensive legislation, Kansas farmers, truckers, homeowners, drivers, industry, will just face more of the same indefinitely -- that is, uncertainty as to fuel supply and unpredictable prices," Dole said. "The Congress has wasted enough time, further delay is nothing less than a breach of faith with the American people."