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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE AMENDMENT ASSURES SEPARATE FUNDING FOR FOSTER CARE, CHILD WELFARE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today successfully offered an amendment which would continue separate funding for foster care and child welfare services. Dole's move came during the Finance Committee's mark-up of H.R. 7200, which amends the Social Security Act. The Committee had previously approved a recommendation to include foster care and child welfare services with Title XX funds.

Foster care programs are authorized by Title IV A of the Social Security Act, and provide foster care payments for children eligible for Aid to Families with Dependent Children. Title IV B provides money for child welfare services and is one of the several social service programs under the Social Security Act.

Senator Dole offered his amendment to assure that the IV B funds intended for child welfare services are not puy into other programs already funded through Title XX. "I was concerned that if these funds were thrown into the conglomerate Title XX funds, that the children might never benefit from the programs," Dole said. He went on to add that the monies he was talking about fund programs that place special emphasis on preventive services to reduce family break-ups, juvenile delinquency, child abuse, neglect, etc.

"Historically, these support services have not received much support under Title XX, and I can't really see why we can expect the situation to change," commented Dole. Dole has had a long-time interest in handicapped children, and he expressed additional concern that if these children don't receive early attention, their condition could become progressively more severe.