



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE-PROPOSED NATIONAL REGULATORY COMMISSION AIMED AT ELIMINATING WASTE, INEFFICIENCY

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) introduced legislation today to create a national Commission on Governmental Organization and Regulation to study the problems associated with excessive and inefficient federal government.

"The problems and costs resulting from expensive and confusing regulations are familiar to all of us," Dole said. "Today there are over 80 regulatory agencies and more than 100,000 federal workers whose sole function is to tell other Americans what government says they can or cannot do. The Office of Management and Budget has estimated the cost of such regulation to be as high as \$130 billion -- roughly equal to \$2,000 for every American family.

"The only way we can arrive at a positive alternative to the current regulatory tangle is to take the problem out of the glare of politics and study it in a rational, evenhanded way."

The Commission on Governmental Organization and Regulation would be composed of 12 members from public and private life. It would hold hearings and conduct research in its effort to promote economy, efficiency and improved service in the transaction of public business. In its final report, it would propose legislation, administrative actions and constitutional amendments to reduce unnecessary expense, eliminate duplication and abolish functions that should be performed by private enterprise or local and state government.

"A national commission would unite the various interests, views and approaches to regulatory reform," Dole said. "It would bring together the dozens of excellent studies and proposals that currently languish on bookshelves. Most importantly, a commission of highly respected leaders from government and private life would serve as a catalyst for unifying and motivating Congress to act."

The commission is based on the Hoover Commissions of the 1940s and 1950s, which were enormously successful in inducing reform. Within six years of the creation of the second Hoover Commission, Congress had implemented 62 percent of its legislative recommendations. Together, the two commissions saved the American people \$8 billion to \$12 billion.

"If such a study is to catalyze the growing regulatory reform movement and arouse congressional action, it must be led dynamically by an American of national prestige and intimate understanding of government's nooks and crannies," Dole said. "I think the man for the job is Gerald Ford. I have spoken with President Ford about this idea, and he agrees with my perception of the danger continued strangulation of free enterprise holds for the American economy.

"The time has come to stop making promises, and start promoting action. Regulation can be regulated. A national commission is a first, giant step toward that goal."