

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

2213 Dirksen Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1979

CONTACT: BILL KATS, ROD DeARMENT  
(202) 224-8947, -4416

## CONSUMERS USING HEATING OIL, PROPANE FOR HOME HEATING WOULD GET TAX CREDIT UNDER DOLE PLAN

WASHINGTON -- An amendment proposed by Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.) and adopted today by the Senate Finance Committee as part of the windfall profits tax bill would provide tax credits of up to \$200 for use of heating oil and propane in residential heating.

The amendment, a modified version of the Dole-Ribicoff home heating oil bill, was passed by the committee by a vote of 11-4. In addition to home heating oil and propane, the use of imported natural gas is subject to the same tax credit.

The Dole-Ribicoff bill was formulated to provide relief for vast numbers of middle- and lower-class consumers who will be hurt by ever-increasing energy costs.

"Increases in energy prices are pushing the cost of residential heating and utility bills to unacceptable levels," Dole said. "Individuals in most parts of the country will see startling jumps in the cost of their home heating this year and the next several years. For instance, it is estimated that the price of propane will increase by 60 percent over last winter, and similar prospects will face consumers of home heating oil. In Kansas, New England and the colder areas of our country, this makes the spectre of winter even harsher for working men and women.

"It is the intent of myself and other members of the committee that we don't turn our backs on those who will be hit hardest by rocketing energy costs."

The amendment calls for a tax credit, up to a maximum of \$200, applied to the increased price of home heating oil, propane and imported natural gas. Renters who live in buildings in which they do not pay separately for their heating would use a percentage of their rent for the base of the credit.

The credit would be gradually phased out for those earning incomes of more than \$20,000. The maximum amount of the credit would be \$200 per household. That amount would be reduced by 10 cents for each dollar by which adjusted gross income exceeds \$20,000, so that no credit would be allowed for taxpayers with incomes of \$22,000 or more.

The credit would be available for 1979, 1980 and 1981.