

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE SUPPORTS PRESIDENT ON ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BILL

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kan.), Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, today strongly endorsed the President's call for legislation to prohibit federal tax exemption for organizations that discriminate on the basis of race. Dole indicated that he would introduce the Administration's bill as soon as it is drafted.

"I am particularly supportive of the President's unequivocal reaffirmation of the Administration's opposition to racial discrimination in any form," stated Senator Dole. "Racial discrimination has too long been a socially destructive force and should be expunged wherever and wherever it appears."

Senator Dole indicated he welcomed the challenge of devising an appropriate nondiscrimination policy for tax-exempt organizations. Congress is clearly the proper forum to fashion such a policy.

Dole pointed out that in 1976, the Senate Finance Committee enacted an amendment to the Internal Revenue Code explicitly barring tax-exempt social clubs from engaging in discrimination on the basis of race. "In my view," Dole said, "any tax-exempt organization that is adjudicated to have discriminated on the basis of race should be stripped of its tax-free status."

"I expect this matter to receive priority attention by Congress and the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction over the requirements for exemption from federal taxation," said Dole.

The Senate Finance Committee will hold hearings on this matter shortly after Congress returns. A date for these hearings will be forthcoming.