

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1981

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IMPACT OF SENATE BUDGET VOTE EXAGGERATED, DOLE SAYS

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan.), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said today that the impact of yesterday's Senate Budget Committee vote on 1982 spending levels has been exaggerated, and that he expects the budget matter to be resolved soon.

"There is a tendency on the part of many in the press and in Congress to exaggerate the importance of committee votes on the First Budget Resolution," Dole said. "I have talked to Chairman Domenici, Secretary Regan and the White House, and I am confident that yesterday's vote will soon be resolved.

"As I understand it, the difference between the Republicans who voted against reporting the resolution and those who voted for it was merely whether the needed out-year budget cuts should be specified. To me, this is more a question of form than substance.

"I agree with Senators Armstrong, Symms and Grassley that deep spending cuts must be made in 1983 and 1984 in order to assure a balanced budget. However, it may be unrealistic to expect too much specificity at this early stage. I believe the new Administration has done an outstanding job of detailing the \$48 billion in cuts that are already public.

"I don't feel that this vote will have any real effect on the tax cut debate. A large majority in the Congress agrees that economic recovery will require massive reductions in spending as well as a significant lessening of our tax burden over the next several years. Nothing that happened yesterday has changed that."