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News from Senator





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DOLE BILL CALLS FOR END TO APARTHEID

WASHINGTON ---- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole has introduced legislation that would express strong United States opposition to apartheid in South Africa and encourage the South African government to dismantle the apartheid system.

"There is no excuse for perpetuating apartheid--," Dole said, "it serves no one's long-term interests. Apartheid must go. Aparthied will go. But, Dole added, it is also in everyone's interest to see that apartheid's demise, while speedy, is non-violent."

The bill, co-sponsored by Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Richard G Lugar (R-Ind.) and Senator Charles Mc.C Mathias, Jr. (R-Md.), would offer a four-pronged approach for achieving quick, peaceful and comprehensive change in South Africa.

First, the bill condemns apartheid loudly and clearly. Second, the bill aims at encouraging the continued presence of American business as long as it continues to be a force for good in the country. It earmarks additional funds within the AID budget for scholarships for blacks and for human rights-related projects. It directs the administration, to the extent feasible, to procure the goods and services it needs to support our presence in South Africa from black and other non-white owned firms. And it encourages OPIC and EXIM to increase their involvement with, and support for, such companies.

Third, the bill strongly encourages the continued and expanded adherence to the so-called Sullivan principles, which layout guidelines for American firms operating in South Africa to promote economic advancement for blacks.

Finally, the bill directs the President to report to the Congress periodically on whether South Africa is making significant progress in dismantling the apartheid system. Should the president determine that the South African government has not made such progress, he is directed to recommend from among appropriate sanctions. The Congress would deal with the president's reports and recommendations under expedited procedures.

"We think this is a strong, constructive, realistic approach to this very important problem," Dole said. "We think it offers the best chance of achieving the goals we all share." -30-