

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE SAYS CONFERENCE ON BALANCED BUDGET MAY DOOM TAX BILL

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) said today a lengthy House-Senate conference on the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings balanced budget proposal, combined with a crowded Senate agenda, could well doom any chances for clearing tax reform this session of Congress.

"Like Christopher Columbus discovering the wrong continent," Dole said, "the Treasury Department may be just discovering an unwanted consequence of its unprecedented decision to tap into the Federal Financing Bank to finance the deficit. By taking the pressure off the House to increase the debt ceiling, Treasury may well doom the tax bill."

Dole pointed out that some of the key House players in the tax reform debate will be tied up for the next several weeks in conference on the balanced budget proposal. And during that time, tax reform will most likely have to be put on hold.

"Between now and Thanksgiving the Senate really has its work cut out, even without tax reform," Dole said. In the coming week the Senate will take up budget reconciliation and several fiscal 1986 appropriations bills. The following week, the Senate will resume consideration of the textile amendment and then begin to debate the farm bill and additional appropriations measures.

And during the remainder of October and November, trade legislation, Conrail and child nutrition may also be considered. The Administration may also request action on the Genocide Treaty. Finally,, the conference report on budget reconciliation, and the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings balanced budget/debt ceiling bill, as well as a continuing appropriations resolution will have to be adopted before Congress leaves for Thanksgiving.