

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
SEPTEMBER 7, 1989

CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
(202) 224-5358

DOLE ANNOUNCES SENATE APPROVAL TO FUND  
CLOSED-CAPTIONING OF SENATE TV PROCEEDINGS

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) announced today Senate approval of \$1 million to fund closed-captioning of televised Senate floor proceedings. The funding is included in the Senate legislative branch appropriations bill which the Senate is expected to pass today. Senator Dole was the principal sponsor of earlier legislation requiring closed-captioning of televised broadcasts of Senate floor proceedings.

"All Americans should have the opportunity to share in the debates of their elected representatives," said Dole. "It's especially appropriate that the Senate is moving to make closed-captioning of its televised floor proceedings a reality on the same day that we begin consideration of the Americans With Disabilities Act."

"People with disabilities have a right to participate equally in our society. I am pleased that today we are taking steps towards achieving this goal," said Dole. "Closed-captioning of Senate televised floor proceedings will benefit the more than 20 million Americans who are deaf or hearing-impaired."

Closed-captioning technology allows the audio portion of a program to be displayed in printed form on a television screen. The captions are received if a person has a special decoding device attached to the television set.

##