

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1989

CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
(202) 224-5358

## DOLE: HIGH COURT TILTS "WRONG" ON FLAG DECISION

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS.) ISSUED THIS STATEMENT REGARDING THE SUPREME COURT'S DECISION TO LIMIT THE POWER OF STATES TO OUTLAW THE DESECRATION OR DESTRUCTION OF THE AMERICAN FLAG.

THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF TALK LATELY ABOUT HOW THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES IS TILTING "RIGHT." WELL, TODAY IT DIDN'T TILT RIGHT -- IT TILTED "WRONG."

IT IS DEAD WRONG WHEN IT COMES TO THE DESECRATION OF OUR COUNTRY'S FLAG. FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS A CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEE THAT AMERICA HOLDS DEAR; AND WE HAVE DEFENDED THAT RIGHT FOR TWO CENTURIES IN THIS VERY BUILDING.

BUT WE DRAW THE LINE WHEN IT COMES TO OUR FLAG. IN MY VIEW, THE CONSTITUTION, FOR WHICH MILLIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES TO DEFEND, HOLDS NO GUARANTEE FOR DESECRATION; NO BASIC RIGHT TO DEFACE; AND CERTAINLY NO PROTECTION FOR THOSE WHO WOULD DISGRACE OUR FLAG IN THE NAME OF ART.

IT WAS A 5-4, VERY FRAGILE, MAJORITY. IT COULD HAVE JUST AS WELL GONE THE OTHER WAY. AND NO COURT, NOT EVEN THE SUPREME COURT, HAS STRUCK DOWN ANY FLAG TRAMPLING STATUTE.

SENATOR DOLE IS THE CO-AUTHOR OF A BILL - WHICH HAS SINCE BECOME THE LAW OF THE LAND - THAT MAKES IT A FEDERAL CRIME TO "TRAMPLE" THE FLAG. THE AMENDMENT CAME IN RESPONSE TO A SO-CALLED ART EXHIBIT IN CHICAGO THAT ENCOURAGED MUSEUM-GOERS TO STEP ON OLD GLORY. DOLE CALLED THE EXHIBIT "DESPICABLE".



BOB DOLE  
KANSAS

**ACTION ALERT FOR VETS:**

**DOLE DISAVOWS USE OF NAME IN PROMO  
FOR VET BENEFIT BOOK**

**United States Senate**

OFFICE OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7020

June 13, 1989

Mr. Robert L. Berko  
Executive Director  
Consumer Education Research Center  
439 Clark Street  
South Orange, New Jersey 07079

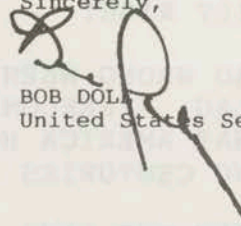
Dear Mr. Berko:

I am extremely dismayed to learn that my name has been used in advertising campaigns to sell the latest edition of your Complete Guide to Federal and State Benefits For Veterans, Their Families and Survivors. My office has been alerted to your ad pitch by concerned men and women who called or wrote to complain about your promotion using my name. Let me say that it is not proper for elected representatives to actively endorse a consumer product.

After reviewing the latest edition of your book, I neither agree with the views expressed in the preface nor believe that your book is a "useful" guide for veterans. In fact, I have some serious concerns that your book and its misguided preface may be unfairly exploiting the American veteran by charging him money for information which he can receive directly from the Veterans Administration for free.

I no longer wish to be associated with this guide and demand that you stop using my name in advertisements and withdraw my endorsement from reprints of this edition and future editions.

Sincerely,



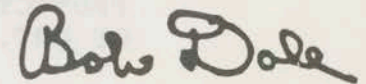
BOB DOLE  
United States Senate

BD/jh

**United States Senate**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-1601

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