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FEBRUARY 3, 1989

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DOLE SAYS PROTECTING DEPOSITORS BOTTOM LINE

WASHINGTON -- FOLLOWING A CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BUSH, SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS.) SAID, "THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT WE HAVE TO PROTECT DEPOSITORS -- THE PEOPLE WHO PUT THEIR FAITH AND TRUST IN SAVINGS AND LOANS INSTITUTIONS -- AND WE WILL."

"We had a positive, productive meeting with President Bush and all agreed that we must act quickly and together. The administration's position on how to handle the S&L crisis will be spelled out next week by President Bush. While he didn't give us any specifics, it's pretty clear that most of the funds needed to straighten out the industry's problems will come from the savings and loans and banks themselves -- not the average taxpayer."

"The bottom line is that we have to protect depositors -- the people who put their faith and trust in savings and loan institutions -- and we will."