

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 17, 1989

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DOLE EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR TREASURY ETBE CLARIFICATION ACTION

Washington, D.C. -- SENATOR BOB DOLE (R-KS) EXPRESSED SUPPORT TODAY REGARDING NEWS THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY HAS ISSUED A PROPOSED RULING TO CLARIFY THAT ETHYL TERTIARY BUTYL ETHER (ETBE) WILL BE INCLUDED UNDER THE ALCOHOL FUELS CREDIT.

"I WELCOME THE NEWS OF TREASURY'S PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE ETBE IN THE BLENDER CREDIT. ETBE IS AN IMPORTANT NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE OXYGENATED FUELS INDUSTRY AND WILL CONTRIBUTE TO AIR QUALITY, ENERGY SECURITY AND PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE MARKETS FOR FARMERS. WE EXPECT THAT WHEN EFFECTIVE, NO LOOPHOLE FOR IMPORTS WILL BE A PART OF THE FINAL CLARIFICATION."

ETBE IS AN OXYGENATED FUEL THAT CAN BE BLENDED WITH GASOLINE TO MAKE IT BURN MORE CLEANLY AND EFFICIENTLY. ETBE IMPROVES AIR QUALITY AND ENGINE PERFORMANCE WITH HIGHER OCTANE AND LOWER VOLATILITY.

"I STILL CONSIDER THE BLENDER CREDIT TO BE VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE ETHANOL INDUSTRY AND I AM WORKING HARD TO SEE IT EXTENDED INTO THE NEXT CENTURY. I DO NOT WANT TO OPEN ANOTHER LOOPHOLE FOR CHEAP IMPORTS," SAID DOLE.

DOLE JOINED 75 SENATORS IN APRIL SEEKING A CLARIFICATION FROM TREASURY SECRETARY NICHOLAS BRADY. DOLE SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED HIS APRIL LETTER WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT A POTENTIAL IMPORT PROBLEM EXISTS UNLESS SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED BY THE DEPARTMENT.