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**DOLE CARRIES THROUGH ON COMMITMENT TO DESERT SHIELD TROOPS;
TAX RELIEF BILL INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS**

WASHINGTON -- AMERICAN SOLDIERS DEPLOYED IN OPERATION DESERT SHIELD WOULD GET MUCH-NEEDED RELIEF FROM TAX FILING DEADLINES AND INTEREST PENALTIES UNDER LEGISLATION AUTHORED BY SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS) AND INTRODUCED TODAY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE DOLE BILL, SPONSORED IN THE HOUSE BY WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DAN ROSTENKOWSKI (D-IL), WOULD ALLOW TROOPS AND THEIR SPOUSES 60 DAYS FROM THE END OF THE SOLDIER'S DESERT SHIELD SERVICE TO FILE TAX RETURNS INTEREST-FREE. IF ENTITLED TO TAX REFUNDS, SOLDIERS FILING WITHIN THE 60 DAYS WOULD BE ENTITLED TO INTEREST ON THEIR REFUNDS, PAID AS OF APRIL 15TH.

"THIS COMMONSENSE LEGISLATION SENDS AN IMPORTANT SIGNAL TO OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES -- THAT OUR GOVERNMENT IS NOT GOING TO MAKE THEIR LIVES MORE DIFFICULT THAN THE RIGORS OF PERSIAN GULF DUTY ALREADY HAVE," DOLE SAID. "OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE SAUDI DESERT HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO FOCUS ON THAN COMPILING RECORDS, MEETING PAPERWORK DEADLINES, OR WORRYING ABOUT BEING PENALIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT THEY ARE SERVING."

DOLE PROMISED LEGISLATION IN DECEMBER AFTER THE IRS ANNOUNCED IT HAD NO AUTHORITY TO GRANT DESERT SHIELD SOLDIERS RELIEF FROM INTEREST PENALTIES INCURRED FOR FILING AFTER APRIL 15TH.

"WITH CHAIRMAN ROSTENKOWSKI LEADING THE WAY IN THE HOUSE, I HAVE HIGH HOPES THAT THIS RELIEF BILL WILL SAIL THROUGH CONGRESS WITH STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT," DOLE ADDED.

DOLE WILL INTRODUCE HIS BILL IN THE SENATE ON JANUARY 23RD, THE FIRST DAY SENATE RULES PERMIT THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION IN THE 102ND CONGRESS.

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