

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: WALT RIKER
(202) 224-5358

H.R. 1: OUT-OF-TOUCH WITH AMERICA

WASHINGTON - SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS) TODAY MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE PASSAGE OF H.R. 1:

YESTERDAY, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASSED H.R. 1, THE QUOTA BILL VETOED BY PRESIDENT BUSH LAST YEAR.

H.R. 1 HAS A "CIVIL RIGHTS" LABEL, BUT IT'S A LABEL, AND NOTHING ELSE.

H.R. 1 IS NOT ABOUT EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY. IT'S ABOUT EQUALITY OF RESULTS.

IT'S NOT ABOUT RESTORING OUR HISTORIC CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS.

IT'S ABOUT TRANSFORMING TITLE VII INTO A NATIONAL TORT LAW THAT WILL KEEP THE AMERICAN TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION IN BUSINESS FOR DECADES TO COME.

SO, THE BAD NEWS IS THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS VOTED FOR TIME-CONSUMING LAWSUITS, FOR HIGH-PRICED LAWYERS FEES, FOR QUOTAS IN EVERY WORKPLACE IN AMERICA. BUT THE GOOD NEWS, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IS THAT THE QUOTA BILL HAS FAILED TO GARNER THE NECESSARY 290 VOTES TO OVERRIDE PRESIDENT BUSH'S SURE-TO-COME VETO.

THE QUOTA BILL HAS NOW PASSED THE HOUSE. AND IT WILL PROBABLY PASS THE SENATE LATER THIS YEAR.

BUT, FORTUNATELY, THE QUOTA BILL WILL NOT BECOME LAW, BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT WILL SAVE CONGRESS FROM ITSELF.

PRESIDENT BUSH HAS PROPOSED THE "REAL MCCOY" IN THIS DEBATE -- A FAIR, RESPONSIBLE, TOUGH CIVIL RIGHTS BILL -- THAT WILL GUARANTEE EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AMERICANS.

WITH THE PRESIDENT'S PACKAGE, WE CAN HAVE A ROSE GARDEN SIGNING CEREMONY.

WE CAN HAVE A STRONG, MEANINGFUL CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

BUT, MY COLLEAGUES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE AISLE MUST FIRST EXTRICATE THEMSELVES FROM THE QUOTA QUAGMIRE AND COME BACK TO AMERICA -- WHERE "EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY" IS A SHARED VALUE, BUT WHERE "EQUALITY OF RESULTS" -- QUOTAS -- ARE AS POPULAR THESE DAYS AS SADDAM HUSSEIN.

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