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NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SENATE UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTS DOLE AMENDMENT: PAVES WAY FOR DIRECT AID TO DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS IN SOVIET UNION AND YUGOSLAVIA

LAST WEEK DURING SENATE CONSIDERATION OF THE FY 92 FOREIGN AID AUTHORIZATION BILL, THE SENATE PASSED A PROVISION EXPRESSING SENATE SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS IN THE SOVIET UNION. THIS AMENDMENT BUILDS ON THAT PRINCIPLE AND EXTENDS IT TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS OF YUGOSLAVIA.

BYPASS COMMUNIST CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS

THIS AMENDMENT MAKES IT THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT THOSE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICS DIRECTLY--THROUGH FOREIGN AID AND TRADE RELATIONS. AT THE PRESENT TIME, U.S. POLICY PROVIDES ONLY FOR ASSISTANCE TO, AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH, THE SOVIET AND YUGOSLAV CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS. UNDER THE PRESENT SYSTEM, WE HAVE ONLY TWO OPTIONS: TO SUPPORT THESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS OR WITHHOLD SUPPORT TO THESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS. WHAT WE DON'T HAVE AS AN OPTION, IS DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE FREELY-ELECTED DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS AT THE REPUBLIC LEVEL WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION AND YUGOSLAVIA. AS ALL OF MY COLLEAGUES KNOW, WHILE THERE ARE SOME REFORMERS IN BOTH THE SOVIET AND YUGOSLAV CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS, THESE ARE NOT ELECTED, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS--THEY ARE COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS. AND, AS WE HAVE SEEN IN THE BALTICS, IN KOSOVA, AND MOST RECENTLY IN SLOVENIA AND CROATIA, THESE ARE GOVERNMENTS WHICH STILL RESORT TO VIOLENCE AGAINST DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENTS, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR CITIZENS. THEREFORE, THE REAL HOPE FOR DEMOCRACY'S ULTIMATE VICTORY IN THE SOVIET UNION AND YUGOSLAVIA IS THE SURVIVAL AND GROWTH OF DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC GOVERNMENTS.

I BELIEVE THAT THIS AMENDMENT WILL SUBSTANTIALLY STRENGTHEN, AS WELL AS IMPLEMENT--IN THE SOVIET UNION AND IN YUGOSLAVIA--THE PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IS BASED, NAMELY THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS. THIS AMENDMENT WILL LET US PUT OUR MONEY WHERE OUR MOUTH IS--IT WILL BE POSSIBLE NOW TO BACK OUR RHETORIC IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRACY WITH TANGIBLE SUPPORT.

WE KNOW WHO THE TRUE DEMOCRATS ARE, AND WHERE THEY ARE, WHAT'S LEFT TO DO IS TO SUPPORT THEM, SO THAT THEY WILL NOT BE CRUSHED UNDER THE WEIGHT OF COMMUNIST CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS. THIS AMENDMENT OFFERS NEW HOPE FOR THESE FLEDGLING DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC GOVERNMENTS WHICH ARE STILL STRUGGLING AGAINST COMMUNISM. I URGE MY COLLEAGUES TO SUPPORT THIS AMENDMENT.

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