

*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **POLITICAL FUNDRAISING FRAUD**

DOLE BILL WOULD END FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION  
OF POLITICAL FUNDRAISING AUTHORITY;

MILLIONS RAISED IN '88 NEVER REACHED DOLE, BUSH PRESIDENTIAL BIDS

WASHINGTON -- SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS) SATURDAY EVENING INTRODUCED LEGISLATION AIMED AT STOPPING DIRECT-MAIL FUNDRAISING SCHEMES THAT RAISE FUNDS IN THE NAMES OF CANDIDATES WITHOUT DISTRIBUTING THOSE FUNDS TO THE CANDIDATES. SENATOR DOLE'S FLOOR REMARKS FOLLOW:

THE 1992 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS NOW UNDERWAY. CANDIDATES ARE SPREADING OUT THROUGH THE STATES, MONEY IS BEING RAISED, AND, IF 1988 IS ANY INDICATOR, MANY AMERICANS WHO THINK THEY ARE CONTRIBUTING TO A CANDIDATE ARE BEING HOODWINKED.

THIS IS A LESSON THAT I HAVE LEARNED THE HARD WAY. DURING MY 1988 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, MANY AMERICANS RECEIVED A MAILING FROM A GROUP CALLING THEMSELVES "AMERICANS FOR DOLE." THE MAILING URGED ITS READERS TO TAKE THEIR "PLACE IN HISTORY," AND TO SEND A CHECK TO AMERICANS FOR DOLE AT P.O. BOX 90271 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LETTER, IN VERY SMALL TYPE, NO DOUBT UNNOTICED BY THE ADDRESSEE, MANY OF WHOM ARE ELDERLY, WAS A DISCLAIMER SAYING THAT AMERICANS FOR DOLE WAS "NOT AUTHORIZED BY ANY CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATE'S COMMITTEE."

"AMERICANS FOR DOLE" UNCONNECTED TO DOLE CAMPAIGN

THOSE WERE ABOUT THE ONLY WORDS ON THE LETTER THAT WERE TRUTHFUL. NEITHER MYSELF, NOR MY COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED OR HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH "AMERICANS FOR DOLE;" NOR DID MY CAMPAIGN RECEIVE ANY OF THE REPORTED FOUR MILLION DOLLARS THEY RECEIVED FROM CONTRIBUTORS WHO THOUGHT THEIR MONEY WOULD GO TO SUPPORT MY CAMPAIGN.

YOU SEE, "AMERICANS FOR DOLE" WAS REALLY AN EFFORT TO DECEIVE AMERICANS FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S GAIN. I'VE SEEN HEART BREAKING VIDEO TAPES OF ELDERLY PEOPLE, CONVINCED THEY WERE GIVING TO SOMEONE THEY RESPECTED, ONLY TO LEARN THAT THEY HAD FALLEN INTO A FUNDRAISING FRAUD. IT'S NOT RIGHT, AND IT OUGHT TO STOP.

ANY DOUBTS THAT "AMERICANS FOR DOLE" WAS IN MY CORNER, COULD BE ERASED BY THE FACT THAT JUST A FEW P.O. BOXES DOWN FROM WHAT MANY WERE LED TO BELIEVE WAS MINE--THE SAME GROUP SPONSORING AMERICANS FOR DOLE WAS NOW SPONSORING "AMERICANS FOR BUSH." AND THIS GROUP SENT OUT AN ELOQUENT FOUR PAGE LETTER URGING AMERICANS TO HELP THEN-VICE PRESIDENT BUSH. AGAIN, SMALL TYPE ON THE BOTTOM EXPLAINS THAT THE COMMITTEE IS NOT AUTHORIZED BY ANY CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATE'S COMMITTEE.

(MORE)

WITH THE NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES IN THE DEMOCRAT PARTY, YOU CAN BET THAT GROUPS OUT TO MAKE A QUICK BUCK WILL SOON BE PREYING UPON THE AMERICAN PUBLIC ONCE AGAIN.

IT IS MY BELIEF THAT, BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, CONGRESS CAN SEND A BILL TO PRESIDENT BUSH WHICH WOULD TAKE A MAJOR STEP IN PUTTING THESE FLY-BY-NIGHT OPERATIONS OUT OF BUSINESS.

REQUIRE FUNDS ACTUALLY GO TO CANDIDATES

TODAY, I AM INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO DO JUST THAT. MY BILL WOULD AMEND THE FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN ACT OF 1971, BY REQUIRING ANYONE REPRESENTING THAT THEY ARE SOLICITING OR ACCEPTING A CONTRIBUTION ON BEHALF OF A CANDIDATE OR POLITICAL COMMITTEE, TO ACTUALLY PAY ANY CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED TO THE CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE, AND TO INFORM THEM OF THE NAME OF THE CONTRIBUTOR.

THIS PROPOSAL IS SIMILAR TO OTHERS THAT HAVE BEEN DEBATED IN CONGRESS IN RECENT SESSIONS, BUT I WAS CONCERNED THAT THEY DID NOT GO FAR ENOUGH. I WAS CONCERNED THAT THOSE SENDING MISLEADING MAILINGS, WOULD SIMPLY POINT TO THE SMALL DISCLAIMERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THEIR LETTERS, AND SAY THAT THESE DISCLAIMERS MEAN THEY SHOULD BE LET OFF THE HOOK.

DISCLAIMERS

THEREFORE, MY LEGISLATION ALSO REQUIRES THAT ANY DISCLAIMER WITHIN A COMMUNICATION TO THE EFFECT THAT A PERSON IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO SOLICIT OR ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS, WILL NOT BE ADMISSIBLE IN EVIDENCE IN A LEGAL PROCEEDING, UNLESS THE DISCLAIMER IS PRINTED "IN THE SAME SIZE AND GIVEN THE SAME PROMINENCE AS THE MOST PROMINENT DISPLAY OF A CANDIDATE'S OR POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S NAME."

THIS IS NOT A PARTISAN PROPOSAL. DEMOCRATS, AS WELL AS REPUBLICANS, HAVE BEEN BILKED--AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE BILKED--UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE.

WE ASK OURSELVES, "WHY ARE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SO CYNICAL ABOUT POLITICS THESE DAYS?" JUST LOOK AT SOME OF THESE SCAMS, AND YOU'LL KNOW PART OF THE REASON WHY.

MY LEGISLATION IS SIMPLE, STRAIGHT-FORWARD, AND I BELIEVE IT WILL GET THE JOB DONE, AND RESTORE A LITTLE BIT OF RESPECTABILITY TO THE POLITICAL PROCESS.

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