

Bob Dole



NEWS

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POLITICAL FUNDRAISING FRAUD

DOLE URGES PARTY CHAIRMEN TO WARN CONTRIBUTORS & CANDIDATES TO POTENTIAL FUNDRAISING SCAMS

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today urged the chairmen of both the Republican and Democrat parties to warn their contributors and candidates to political fundraising schemes that raise funds in the names of candidates without distributing those funds to the candidates. Dole is the author of legislation that seeks to protect unwitting contributors from such fundraising scams.

In letters to Republican National Committee Chairman Clayton Yeutter and Democrat National Committee Chairman Ron Brown, Dole described a 1988 fundraising appeal from a group calling itself "Americans for Dole," which reportedly raised \$4 million. "The trouble was that my [presidential] campaign had no connection with 'Americans for Dole' -- a fact only revealed in very small type at the bottom of the letter -- and my campaign received none of these contributions," Dole wrote. With the 1992 presidential campaign season underway, "the sad fact is that many Americans who think they are contributing to a candidate are actually being hoodwinked," Dole added.

To prevent the American public from being victimized by such groups in 1992, Dole's legislation, introduced on November 23rd, would require anyone representing that they are soliciting or accepting contributions on behalf of a candidate to actually pay any monies received to the official campaign committee. Dole's bill also requires that any disclaimers be printed "in the same size and given the same prominence as the most prominent display of a candidate's or political committee's name."

In his letters, Dole expressed hope "that Congress will act quickly, and President Bush will sign this legislation into law early in 1992." Dole urged that until his bill becomes law, the parties "warn both candidates and contributors of the presence of those who would turn our democratic system into nothing more than a way to make a quick buck."

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