

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BASEBALL STRIKE & CONGRESS

**STATEMENT OF
SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE
& HOUSE SPEAKER NEWT GINGRICH**

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole & House Speaker Newt Gingrich tonight issued the following statement:

"It's unfortunate that the owners and players have so far been unable to resolve their differences.

"We commend President Clinton and special mediator Bill Userly for their efforts to end the baseball strike. But, now, the President has apparently thrown the ball into Congress' court. We maintain our view that Congress is ill-suited to resolving private labor disputes.

"The best course continues to be a negotiated settlement. That's why tonight we are urging Mr. Userly and the negotiators to send the baseball talks into extra innings by working around-the-clock until they find common ground. Ultimately, both sides will be accountable to the nation's baseball fans.

"Before considering the President's proposal or any other option, we intend to sit down with Mr. Userly to determine why the negotiators have so far struck out. Mr. Userly has been on the job for nearly four months now, and we want to hear from him personally why the negotiations have thus far failed to produce an agreement."

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