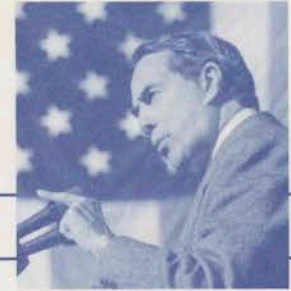


*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, May 9, 1995*

*Contact: Clarkson Hine  
(202) 224-5358*

## **PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM**

**DECADE-LONG EFFORT YIELDS "TREMENDOUS VICTORY,"  
CLEARING PATH FOR SENATE PASSAGE OF LEGAL REFORM**

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Senate today voted 60-38 to bring debate to an end on S.565 -- "The Product Liability Bill." The vote on the Dole-Coverdell substitute, offered last Friday, modified the pending legislation by narrowing its scope to protections in product liability actions, and included additional protections for small businesses. Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole's statement follows:

"Today's vote was a tremendous victory. Over the past decade, many attempts to bring a product liability bill to the floor have failed. This is the first time the Senate has voted to end debate, and clears the way for passage of the bill.

"This legislation will provide long overdue relief from the lawsuit abuse 'litigation tax' which adds to the price of consumer goods and medical products, and which costs the average American \$1,200 per year.

"Opponents of reform fought this bill with their usual tenacity, but we never gave up. And we never gave up because the American people have made clear that they are fed up with lawsuit abuse and the irresponsible scare tactics of the trial lawyers."

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