

*Bob Dole*



**NEWS**

**U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE MAJORITY LEADER**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*  
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## **RESCISSIONS BILL VETO**

### **STATEMENT OF SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE**

It is highly regrettable that President Clinton chose a bill cutting spending for his first veto. The \$16.4 billion rescissions bill would have provided for \$9 billion in real savings -- an important down payment on getting our country's financial house in order.

The President made a serious mistake in judgment in vetoing this measure. It would have provided funding to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for disaster relief, to Oklahoma for reconstruction, and debt relief for Jordan to support the peace process.

As Speaker Gingrich and I have previously said, we met the Administration more than half way. The President asked for Jordan debt relief -- we met his request. The President asked for FEMA funds for disaster relief in 40 states, and we met his request. The President threatened a veto if striker-replacement language was included in the bill -- we took it out. We left AIDS funding, breast cancer screening, childhood immunization, Head Start and other programs untouched.

And still we came up with \$9 billion in net real savings. We in the Congress held up our end of the bargain. But, President Clinton missed a valuable opportunity to join us in cutting spending.

Now, with three-quarters of the fiscal year almost gone, we are losing the opportunity to enact real savings this year. In the face of the budget deficit that mortgages our children's future, we in the Congress will proceed to pass a budget that puts us on the path to balance by the year 2002. We owe it to our children and grandchildren.

For the sake of generations to come, it's time for the President to stop being an obstacle in the road and join us in our responsibility to secure our nation's economic future.

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\* remarks delivered on Senate floor, approximately 3:35 PM EDT.