

INTRODUCTION OF SENATOR BOB GRIFFIN, MINORITY WHIP, U.S. SENATE  
BY  
SENATOR BOB DOLE

September 21, 1974

IT WAS IN 1960 THAT I WAS FIRST ELECTED TO  
THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND WHEN I ARRIVED  
IN WASHINGTON TO START MY FIRST TERM IN CONGRESS,  
I FOUND THAT PEOPLE WERE STILL TALKING ABOUT THE  
SUMMER OF '59 AND WHAT A CERTAIN RATHER JUNIOR  
CONGRESSMAN HAD ACCOMPLISHED DURING THAT TIME.

THAT SUMMER A VERY HEATED CONTROVERSY OVER  
LABOR LAW REFORM CAME TO A HEAD, AND THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES WAS THE CRUCIAL BATTLEGROUND.  
THERE WERE ENORMOUS PRESSURES FROM ALL SIDES --  
HOURS OF DEBATE AND MANEUVERING -- AND FINALLY  
THE LANDRUM/GRIFFIN ACT WAS PASSED. IT WAS TRULY  
A LANDMARK PIECE OF LEGISLATION AND OUR SPEAKER  
TONIGHT CO-AUTHORED IT AND LED THE FIGHT ON THE

FLOOR FOR ITS PASSAGE.

HE DIDN'T SHRINK FROM LEADERSHIP BACK THEN, AND  
INDEPENDENTMINDEDNESS, PRINCIPLED ACTION, AND FIRMNES  
BALANCED BY WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE HAVE BEEN HIS  
WATCHWORDS EVER SINCE.

AND EVERYBODY KNOWS IT.

THAT EXPLAINS WHY THE SENATE REPUBLICANS CHOSE  
HIM TO BE MINORITY WHIP FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF SENATOR  
DIRKSEN IN 1969, AND THAT IS WHY HE HAS BEEN REELECTED  
UNANIMOUSLY BY HIS REPUBLICAN COLLEAGUES ON TWO  
OCCASIONS SINCE. HE IS A VETERAN. HE IS A LAWYER,  
AND THE AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS LEGAL ARTICLES. HE IS  
THE HUSBAND OF A TEACHER AND POSSESSES A MICHIGAN  
TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE HIMSELF.

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HE IS A WORLD TRAVELLER, AN OUTSTANDING SENATOR,  
AND A GOOD FRIEND. IT HAS BEEN MY GREAT PLEASURE TO  
WORK CLOSELY WITH HIM ON MANY LEGISLATIVE MATTERS. FOR  
INSTANCE, JUST THIS SUMMER HE AND I WORKED TOGETHER TO  
INTRODUCE A GRIFFIN/DOLE ANTI-BUSING BILL. THE BILL  
WAS MODIFIED SOMEWHAT ON THE FLOOR, BUT WHEN WE WERE  
THROUGH THE GRIFFIN/DOLE LANGUAGE WAS THE STRONGEST  
ANTI-BUSING LAW YET PASSED BY THE SENATE OF THE  
UNITED STATES.

WE'RE HONORED TO HAVE HIM AS OUR SPEAKER AND I'M  
PLEASED NOW TO INTRODUCE HIM TO YOU --- A GREAT  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

BOB GRIFFIN OF MICHIGAN

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