

BOB DOLE  
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

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HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67301

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

BARBER HODGEMAN  
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CHEYENNE KEARNY  
CLARK KINGMAN  
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COMANCHE LANE  
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EDWARDS LOGAN  
ELLIS MEADE  
ELLSWORTH MITCHELL  
FINNEY MORTON  
FORD NESS  
GOVE NORTON  
GRAHAM OSBORNE  
GRANT OTTAWA  
GRAY PAWNEE  
GREELEY PHILLIPS  
HAMILTON PRATT  
HARPER  
HASKEL

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
FEBRUARY 3, 1967

THIS STATEMENT IS NOT FOR RELEASE UNTIL  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, AFTER 12 NOON

On Thursday, February 9, Congressman Bob Dole (R-Kans) introduced a Joint Resolution authorizing the posthumous issuance of a gold medal to the late Walt Disney. Dole's Resolution provides that the President, in the name of the people of the Nation, be authorized to present this medal to Disney's next of kin in recognition of the valuable contributions Walt Disney made through the years to the culture of the United States.

In a statement on the House Floor, following introduction of the Resolution, Congressman Dole said: "Our Nation lost one of its most illustrious and important citizens on December 15, 1966, when Walt Disney passed away. He had been called Hollywood's only authentic genius.

"Walt Disney's name has been synonymous with the best in the field of entertainment. He also reached the peak of creativity in bringing to peoples all over the world hundreds of hours of pleasure. Since 1928, when he launched his Mickey Mouse series, he won international acclaim for his ingenuity and ability to bring to the screen the wonders of animation.

"He was the winner of about 30 Motion Picture Academy Award Oscars, and over <sup>900</sup>~~700~~ other awards, including decorations from foreign governments, gold medals, trophies, and citations from national and international organizations, newspapers, magazines, and churches.

"On May 23, 1966, Disney received a once-in-a-century award as an outstanding humanitarian from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, at its 100th Anniversary Annual Meeting in New York City. He was cited for his role as a 'teacher of kindness and compassion'. During the presentation Walt Disney was characterized as 'a corporate pathfinder and an architect of the imaginative without peer in the field of humane education'."

Dole also pointed out that Disney was born in Chicago, spent his youth in Kansas City, Missouri, and eventually went to California where he formed a partnership with his brother. Since then, Disney's contributions to the motion picture screen are legion: Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Fantasia, Snow White, Pinocchio, So Dear to My Heart, Peter Pan, Seal Island, the Living Desert, the Vanishing Prairie, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, and Mary Poppins, to mention a few.

His contributions also extended to wildlife and conservation, and for a dozen years Disney served as National Wild Life Week chairman.

"There is little that can be said about Walt Disney that has not been said before," Dole stated. "To this great artist and loyal American we owe a debt of gratitude and our profound thanks for sharing with us his God-given talents."

Congressman Dole stated the idea for honoring Disney originated with Mrs. Jack D. Boyd of Meade, Kansas, early in 1963. "I regret," he said, "the Resolution was not introduced at that time, but, in many ways, it is even more timely now."

The resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives on October 13, 1968, by Congressman Dole. It was passed by a vote of 367-10 on October 15, 1968. The resolution reads: "Resolved, That the Congress do hereby honor the life and achievements of Walt Disney, a pioneer in the field of entertainment, and a devoted citizen of the United States of America."

1968 OCT 13  
HONORABLE ROBERT J. DOLE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

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