

FROM: DOLE FOR SENATE HEADQUARTERS
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ELLSWORTH, KANSAS., September 29 -- Republican candidate for the U. S. Senate Bob Dole today said "inflation robs senior citizens with more savagery than any other social group".

Speaking at the dedication of a 68-bed addition to the Good Samaritan Retirement Center here, Congressman Dole said, "Inflation affects us all, but it becomes calamitous for the older person trying to make ends meet on a pension or other form of fixed income."

Pointing out 50 percent of the earnings of fixed-income recipients was destroyed by inflation in the last eight years, Dole said, "Our older Americans are the helpless, front-line victims of inflation brought about by bankrupt economic policies at the federal level."

In his speech, Dole said legislation for senior citizens should be designed to help preserve their dignity, independence and security,"not to render them perpetual recipients of charity.

To preserve dignity, he said, "we must recognize that retirement from employment does not mean retirement from life and that opportunities for older people to continue their contributions must exist."

"To preserve independence means varying programs of assistance and real alternatives must exist so the older person may choose his own course of action."

To preserve security, he added, "we must eliminate the policies and programs which serve only to highlight the problems of older people, particularly those necessarily involving dependency."

"Regardless of the initial plausibility of any government project or program", Dole said, "if it serves to humiliate, to restrict or to cause apprehension, it is better forgotten."