

FOR RELEASE MARCH 10, 1970

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 10 ---U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) became a cosponsor today of legislation which would establish an Environmental Quality Administration.

The environmental program consolidation bill, Dole explained, would combine existing federal program in the three basic environmental quality areas of air, water and solid waste disposal. He noted that presently there are 90 separate federal programs, 26 quasi-governmental bodies and 14 interagency committees which have jurisdiction over various aspects of environmental control.

"The proposed Administration," Dole said, "would coordinate the government's efforts in the area of environmental quality so that a more unified and consistent attack would be possible."

In addition to transferring functions related to environment from the Departments of Health, Education and Welfare, Interior, and Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Water Pollution and Control Administration and the Water Resources Council would become a part of the Administration.

A member of the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee, the Kansas senator added that the Environmental Quality Administration would aid in the distribution and utilization of water and sewer grants and loans under the Farmers Home Administration.