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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR BOB DOLE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE # 464

WASHINGTON, D.C. June 23 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today introduced legislation authorizing organization of a National Information and Resource Center for the Handicapped.

Dole noted that currently no one source exists where the handicapped and those working with them can obtain information on rehabilitation facilities and services, employment, health care and economic aid. There is no central source for information on colleges and universities with special programs and facilities for the handicapped.

"It is not the intent of this bill to duplicate the function of any program in either the government or private sector," Dole said. "Rather, the intent is to coordinate information relating to all programs to the benefit of the handicapped. A small staff would be available to direct inquiries to specialized contacts at universities, organizations and agencies which have special knowledge or have successfully worked on aspects of these problems. The center would also be responsible for gathering and publishing information concerning such programs."

The proposed center would be established within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The bill provides for an appropriation of \$300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971.