



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C., FEB. 21, 1973 -- Senator Bob Dole today testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Improvements in Judicial Machinery and urged that an additional Federal Judgeship be authorized for the District of Kansas.

Dole told the subcommittee that, "regardless of their merits, there has been one inescapable result of the trend toward more numerous, more frequent and more complex demands on the federal litigation process: an overwhelming increase to the burdens of Federal Judicial Officers -- at all levels."

The District of Kansas has been identified, by a four year survey of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, as one of the districts where the workload had increased to the point that a new judgeship was necessary.

Dole said that two factors add considerably to the volume of work on the District of Kansas.

The first is the presence of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth and the steady stream of prisoner petitions, challenges and appeals flowing out of Leavenworth into the Federal Court in Kansas.

The second factor is the unusually high ratio of criminal cases tried to juries. Dole said he was unaware of the cause of this but that anyone who had ever practiced as either a prosecutor or a defense attorney can verify, a jury trial is infinitely more time-consuming than a case tried before a Judge.

Dole concluded: An additional Judgeship is a necessity in the District of Kansas. This recommendation has the strong backing of the legal profession in Kansas. It is supported by the statistics. It has the firm endorsement of Senator Pearson and myself, and I would urge that it be sent at an early date to the full Senate with the approval of the Committee on the Judiciary.