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# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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## MONEY REQUESTED FOR KANSAS CITY VA HOSPITAL

WASHINGTON D.C.--Senators Bob Dole and James Pearson announced today that the Veterans Administration is seeking \$560,000 to begin work on a \$5,601,000 outpatient clinic and \$193,000 to install an improved communications system, both at the Kansas City VA Hospital.

Both requests were included in President Nixon's budget message to Congress which outlines a record \$276 million in proposed VA construction for Fiscal 1975.

Dole has worked with Veterans Administration Donald E. Johnson on plans for the facility.

An increased workload at the VA Hospital, Dole said, demands modern facilities, new equipment, more space and automated medical record-keeping. The Kansas City Clinic will handle 86,348 patients by 1980, according to VA estimates.

Dole said the communications funds, would modernize a nurse call system that was installed in 1950. The present system is visual only. An audio-visual system is proposed for 356 patient beds, complete with pillow speakers and pushbutton controls. A voice channel between patient and nurse will provide immediate response to patient needs. The total cost of the communications system will be \$207,000.