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# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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## VA SEEKS MONEY TO COMPLETE MODERNIZATION OF WICHITA VA HOSPITAL

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senators Bob Dole and James Pearson and Congressman Garner E. Shriver, today announced that the Veterans Administration is seeking \$2,687,000 to complete a \$2,880,000 modernization program at the Wichita Veterans Administration Hospital.

The funds were requested by President Nixon in his budget message to Congress which outlines a record \$276 million VA construction program for Fiscal 1975.

Dole and Shriver worked with Veterans Administrator Donald E. Johnson on the Wichita project. Congress earlier appropriated \$193,000 for preliminary architectural planning.

The program at the 200-bed hospital built in 1932 calls for a new addition and alterations to existings Buildings No. 1, No. 1-A, and No. 3. The hospital underwent earlier improvements in 1939 and 1949.

Dole said modernization is considered imperative for VA Hospital affiliation with the University of Kansas Medical School Branch at Wichita State University's College of Health-Related Professions. Present space is deemed totally inadequate for any affiliation, he said.

The new building will house pharmacy, radiology and clinical laboratories. Vacated areas will be converted to other uses.