

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE URGES TREASURY SECRETARY TO INVESTIGATE KANSAS ADOPTION SCHEME

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Donald T. Regan, urging the Secretary to begin an investigation of those believed to be involved in a fraudulent adoption service which has already cost Kansans thousands of dollars.

"Given the seriousness of the alleged fraud, both in financial and in human terms, it would seem that a comprehensive federal investigation and enforcement effort is warranted," said Dole in the letter.

The adoption agency is under investigation by the FBI and numerous state agencies for taking thousands of dollars from couples to pay "fees and expenses" for arranging the adoption of infants from Mexico. In most instances the couples have received neither the promised child nor the return of their money.

In his letter, Senator Dole asked Regan to determine whether it would be appropriate to establish an interdepartmental task force involving the FBI, IRS and the Immigration and Naturalization Service to aid the investigation.

"I recently was made aware of serious allegations that a fraudulent adoption agency has been operating throughout the country, taking large fees from American couples supposedly to cover the expenses of arranging adoptions of orphaned Mexican children," said Dole. "Allegedly, while a few adoptions are arranged, in most cases the agency takes the money without arranging any adoptions or incurring any expenses. In my home state of Kansas alone, as many as fourteen couples seeking to adopt children have been defrauded of between \$5,000 and \$10,000 each."

"John Grubb, Chief of Police in Chase, Kansas, first brought this matter to my attention. According to information he gave me, the FBI has already begun an investigation of the three persons suspected of involvement," said Dole. "The State of Iowa has successfully obtained a temporary injunction prohibiting any misrepresentation by the three while in Iowa. Chief Grubb also has informed me that numerous state and local law enforcement agencies are conducting their own investigations."

"I will be happy to provide the information I have received and to put the appropriate persons in contact with those who have already been investigating this matter. I appreciate your assistance and ask that you please keep me informed of all developments," said Dole.

Senator Dole's office is cooperating with Kansas Attorney General Bob Stephan, who is investigating the matter. At the request of Chief Grubb, Senator Dole's office contacted the FBI to verify that a federal investigation is being made. Senator Dole has asked that he be kept apprised of the investigation.

Senator Dole is Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which has jurisdiction over federal immigration policy.