

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE INTERVENES FOR KANSAS CITY METROPOLITAN DESIGNATION
WRITES DAVID STOCKMAN TO KEEP KANSAS CITY
THE 29th LARGEST MARKET

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today went to bat for the greater Kansas City area in an effort to reinstate the Kansas-Missouri border city as the 29th largest metropolitan area in the U.S. Dole made the plea to David Stockman, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, after Kansas City was dropped to the 84th largest market by a new format issued by OMB in 1980.

Dear Dave:

I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention a problem we are experiencing with the OMB's most recent statistical designation for the Kansas City metropolitan area. Any assistance you or your office can provide will be appreciated.

Traditionally, Kansas City, Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri (plus surrounding counties) were considered as one for census purposes which resulted in it being ranked as the 29th largest metropolitan area in the country. In 1980, under the new OMB statistical format, the two Kansas Cities chose to be considered as two separate Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSA) so as to make up a Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA). This bifurcated approach was chosen over having the entire area classified as one Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The problem we face is that based on this format the 1980 census figures show Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas City, Kansas dropping significantly in rank to 49th and 84th, respectively. I am sure you can understand that this places the entire community, on both sides of the state line, at a tremendous disadvantage when competing with other metropolitan areas across the country. For this reason I have been asked to assist in their effort to have the Kansas City Metropolitan Area redesignated as a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). My staff has been working with representatives from OMB regarding the particularity of this request, however, if any additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me. For my part, I can assure you that designating Kansas City as one Metropolitan Statistical Area will more accurately reflect the true economic posture of the community as it compares to other areas of the country.

I will thank you in advance for your cooperation and I want to again express my sincere appreciation for your consideration of this request.

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

If approved, Kansas City would rank 27th in city size due to latest census figures.