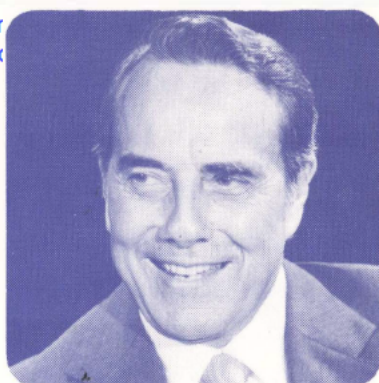


News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE ACCEPTS NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CANCER CENTERS

WASHINGTON -- Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bob Dole (R.-KS) today received the Tenth Annual National Achievement Award of the Association of Community Cancer Centers. The Senator received the honor this morning at the Association's annual awards luncheon at Washington's Hyatt Regency Hotel.

In his remarks, Senator Dole said that Community Cancer Centers should be provided an adjustment in the recently adopted Prospective Payments System to accommodate the higher cost of treating the very ill cancer patient.

"Although Congress specifically mentioned hospitals extensively engaged in cancer treatment and research as a class for which an adjustment might be provided, the Health Care Financing Administration interpreted this exception narrowly," said Senator Dole. "Only a few large institutions were allowed a Diagnostic Related Group (DRG) adjustment."

"I believe that an adjustment may well be necessary for Community Hospitals participating in advanced cancer treatment. I have been in contact with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and with the Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration to express this view," said Dole. "On Monday, I will request that the Secretary convene a meeting of representatives from the Health Care Financing Administration, the National Institutes of Health and other appropriate agencies. I have also asked that the Secretary invite leaders from the major lay, professional and advisory organizations."