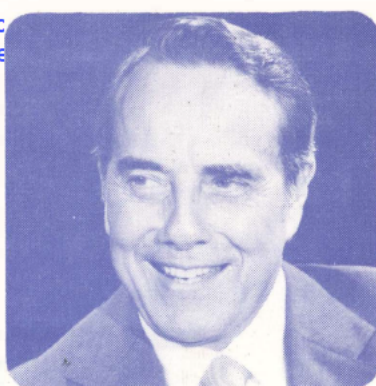


# BOB DOLE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## DOLE SEEKS GAO STUDY OF ALL KANSAS CITY FEDERAL OFFICE SPACE

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that Senator Nancy Kassebaum and Congressman Larry Winn have joined him in asking the General Accounting Office (GAO) to investigate federal office contracting practices in Kansas City over the past fifteen years.

"We have asked the GAO to investigate the reasons behind the extreme disparity in office space between Kansas and Missouri in Kansas City. I do not believe the current imbalance is the result of a free competitive market. In fact, we know that at various times Kansas has been flat-out excluded from the competition for office space. Area taxpayers ought to be interested in learning why the federal government has limited competition and whether they got a good deal by doing so," Dole said.

"If the GAO is going to visit Kansas City they should take a look at the whole picture. I look forward to receiving the results," Dole said.

Following is the text of the letter to GAO:

Recently attention has focused on the extreme disparity in federal office space between Kansas and Missouri in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Currently, over ninety-one percent of the federal office space in the Kansas City area is located in Missouri. Thirty-five percent of the metropolitan population lives in Kansas. We are concerned that this imbalance is not the result of a free competitive market. In fact, we are aware that at various times GSA solicitations for office space have not even included space in Kansas. We do not believe that limiting the search area within a single metropolitan area can be in the best interests of the taxpayer.

Given the unusual distribution of federal office space in Kansas City, we are writing to request that the General Accounting Office undertake an investigation of federal office contracting practices in Kansas City. We would like you to determine whether Kansas has been improperly discriminated against over the past fifteen years. In particular we would like to have the following questions examined:

- o Has the current imbalance in office space between Kansas and Missouri always existed? If not, when did the imbalance begin and why did the change occur?

(MORE)

- o Have bid solicitations in Kansas City regularly included the Kansas side of the metropolitan area? If not, what reasons exist for not seeking space in the entire metropolitan area?
- o Why was Kansas City, Kansas not included in any of the bid notices issued by the GSA between April, 1977 and February, 1982?
- o Have bids for office space in Missouri been accepted when less costly space was available in Kansas?
- o Have federal agencies been located in buildings that fail to meet federal fire safety and handicapped accessibility standards?
- o Are any federal leases in Kansas City expiring within the next year? If so, are bids being accepted from both sides of the state line?

We understand that your office has been asked to investigate the recent decision to relocate the Kansas City EPA office. We believe that investigation should be included in the overall investigation of federal office space in Kansas City that we are requesting. Moreover, we request that the inquiry be expanded to include an investigation of the decision to lease the current office at 324 East 11th, Kansas City, Missouri.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.