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NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, August 8, 1994 Contact: Clarkson Hine (202) 224-5358

DOLE REQUEST FOR STUDY OF FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR REHABILITATION SCIENCE APPROVED BY SENATE

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Senate approved Senator Bob Dole's request for a \$1.2 million study by the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine (IOM) of ways to improve federal support for rehabilitation science and engineering. This request was included in the 1995 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Bill, expected to be approved by the Senate Wednesday.

"Advances in rehabilitation science are essential to realizing our nation's commitment to full participation of the 49-million Americans with disabilities," said Dole.

"However, there are important, unanswered questions of how adequate federal efforts are in both meeting the needs of the rapidly growing number of Americans with disabilities, and in realizing the new scientific and technological advances on behalf of people with disabilities, " added Dole. "This funding would allow for the very first comprehensive examination of this important issue."

The National Academy of Science was chartered by Congress in 1863. In 1970, it created the Institute of Medicine to examine policy matters regarding public health and medical care, research, and education. IOM published <u>Disability in America</u>, a framework for a comprehensive national disability prevention program in 1993.