

NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

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HIGHER EDUCATION THREATENED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, DOLE SAYS

LAWRENCE--"The future of academic freedom has, to a certain extent, been threatened by the very force which has increased its economic investment in higher education five-fold in the past decade--the federal government," warned Senator Bob Dole Sunday morning. Dole made the statement during initiation ceremonies of Sachem Circle, the senior men's honorary fraternity at the University of Kansas.

Dole said that while quality educational opportunities for women, minorities, and the disadvantaged should and must be pursued by the federal government, "some consideration must also be given to the regulatory and paperwork burden imposed on the nation's colleges and its effect on academic freedom."

"The government is engulfing the colleges in bureaucratic rules and regulations which are costly to implement and which challenge the institutions' autonomy," Dole added, pointing out that the American Council on Education has found compliance with a dozen federal programs consumes 1 to 4% of the total operating budget of most higher education institutions.

Dole said he agrees with Yale President Kingman Brewster's perception of a "real constitutional threat in the government's willingness to attach conditions to its support of higher education to achieve other social purposes." The Kansas Senator also said the solution to this problem must be one "which does not impede realization of the worthy goals of non-discrimination and equal educational opportunity."