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STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE H.E.W. -- HUMPHREY ENOBLES WASHINGTON

Mr. President, I am pleased to join in inserting the transcript of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building ceremony in the RECORD.

It has been particularly rewarding to see the bill I introduced, S.2169, progress to fruition in this great and lasting tribute to my friend, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey.

During the ceremony on Tuesday of this week, several thoughts came to mind.

I recalled that the poet, Robert Browning wrote: A man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?

We all hope to live that way, though few of us do it very consistently or with very much effect.

Hubert Humphrey does, though. He lives that way not only to validate heaven but to show what life is for.

As a result, his grasp has exceeded even his own wildest dreams. We all know he wanted to be President once. He would have been a good one. But it was never a consuming passion for him. His consuming passion has been to make America a little better, to make the world a little better, to make life itself a little better -- and reaching out for those goals, he overshot this nation's highest office and became instead one of the great world leaders -- one of the major moral forces of our time or of any time.

The letters H-E-W identify an agency of government but they represent more than that. They represent the ongoing fulfillment of a national promise implicit in the very meaning of America. And Hubert Humphrey has been diligent -- sometimes even obstreperous -- in holding America to her promises.

The words chiseled into the new H.E.W. building will identify Hubert Humphrey with its purposes. But already the letters H-E-W have a meaning larger than this, not chiseled into marble but engraved in our hearts and written in the history of this great capitol city and all it represents -- H.E.W., Humphrey Enobles Washington.

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