

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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U.S. SENATE CHEERS GOV. LANDON'S 98TH BIRTHDAY

(Washington, DC) -- The United States Senate, on its first day of business following the annual August recess, today hailed former Kansas Gov. Alfred Mossman Landon as a "timeless...political institution" on his 98th birthday.

Mr. Landon, governor of Kansas from 1933 to 1937, was also the Republican nominee for president in 1936. Today's Senate resolution in honor of Gov. Landon's birthday was authored by Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, Republican majority leader.

Sen. Dole, in a speech on the Senate floor, said, "Alf Landon is one of those figures of American politics who remain timeless - he is as comfortable addressing the issues of today as he was addressing the issues of the 1936 campaign. Over the years, he has become a political institution - the GOP's 'grand old man', full of wisdom and experience and a lively sense of humor.

"He continues to represent the best of prairie populism and independence. He has been a personal inspiration to me, and he certainly left a lasting imprint on the history of American politics."

Republican leaders were attracted to Landon, Sen. Dole said, "because of his strong image and solid record in office. During the Depression, while the federal government was spending heavily and getting into enormous debt in the process, Gov. Landon's antidote was to initiate a shoestring, no-frills budget in Kansas and balance it."

Sen. Dole continued, "Alf Landon was a man ahead of his times. At the top of the Governor's priority list was balancing

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the state budget during touch economic times. He began by implementing an across-the-board cut of 24 percent that extended to his own \$5,000 a year salary and expenses of the governor's mansion. However, when the legislature refused to cut the Governor's salary, he mailed back a 25 percent refund from each of his paychecks."

"This is the kind of fiscal leadership that we see all too little of today," Sen. Dole said on the Senate floor. "Perhaps what this country needs is a new dose of Alf Landon medicine. The issues that he fought so hard for back then are still with us today, even though the context may have changed."

"Those who know the Governor, and listen to his views, realize that even if he had not been the 1936 Republican nominee...he would still attract the attention of those who continue to admire and respect his solid leadership, integrity and practical political wisdom. He continues to give good, honest advice and preserves a solid perspective of events, both past and present," noted Sen. Dole.

The Senate, in its resolution, also expressed its best wishes to Mr. Theo Landon, the Governor's wife, and to colleague Nancy Landon Kassebaum, the Governor's daughter and a member of the Senate. The resolution was unanimously adopted by the Senate.

99th CONGRESS

1st SESSION

S. RES. _____

(NOTE.—Fill in all blank lines except those provided for the date, number, and reference of resolution.)

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DOLE

submitted the following resolution; which was _____

RESOLUTION

A resolution honoring Alfred Mossman Landon

(Insert title of resolution here)

Resolved,

Whereas, Alfred Mossman Landon, former Governor of Kansas and 1936 Republican nominee for President, is celebrating his 98th birthday today, September 9, 1985;

Whereas, Alf Landon has a firm foothold in American political history of another period, and is ever ready to comment on current affairs with an expertise and sensibility that reveal his unique position as a grand old man of the GOP;

Whereas, his blend of morality, ^{integrity} humanity and practical politics, has led politicians, labor leaders, reporters and academicians to seek advice and counsel at his west Topeka home over the last 49 years;

Whereas, as early as 1936, Mr. Landon was a man ahead of his times, reminding Americans of the evils of inflation and pointing to the dangers of uncontrolled Government spending;

Whereas, his own record of fiscal integrity and balanced budgets during his tenure as Governor of Kansas would be the envy of any contemporary President;

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Whereas, he has contributed much to the development and education
of young people;

Whereas, for over 50 years, Alf Landon has^{is} been one of our most
respected and inspiring citizens, earning himself a
permanent niche in American history;

Whereas, as a statesman, politician, businessman, counselor,
sportsman, and friend, he is a model for all who know him;
Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate that it hereby extend to the
Honorable Alf Landon our affectionate greetings and best
wishes on the occasion of his ninety-eighth birthday.