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News from Senator

(R - Kansas)

BOB DOLE



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DOLE PRAISES GATES LEARJET DECISION, COMMENDS CIVIC LEADERS' TEAM EFFORT

(Washington, DC) -- Kansas Sen. Bob Dole today praised the decision by Gates Learjet to move its entire consolidated operations to Wichita, and commended civic officials for their work on behalf of Wichita.

Responding to the Gates Learjet announcement, Sen. Dole said, "This is great news for Wichita. Those of us who know Wichita felt all along that the company belongs in Kansas. The decision confirms that Wichita is again to be considered the world's air capital. And it shows what positive results can be had when a lot of different people pull together for the common good of their community."

He commended city, union and Chamber of Commerce officials for their efforts to bring the Gates Learjet consolidated operations to Wichita. "With the extra efforts of many dedicated people in the public and private sector, Gates Learjet faced a more than convincing case to choose Wichita. The community owes a big debt of gratitude to these officials," said Sen. Dole.

Of his own involvement in the matter, "I made a few discreet phone calls, promoted the good things Kansas and Wichita have, and pledged to do whatever I could from this end to make such a decision the best one that they could make," Dole said.

Gates Learjet had announced October 23 it was would consolidate its Wichita and Tucson operations, and move them entirely to one or the other communities. Today's announcement of the decision means as many as 500 workers will be moved to Wichita.

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