

The Russell Daily News, Wednesday, June 5, 1991—Page 7

Dole Makes Statement on Kids With Disabilities, School Lunch Program

WASHINGTON — Senator Bob Dole, R-Kan., delivered the following statement on the Senate floor Friday, May 17:

"It has often been said that a hungry child cannot learn. This is especially true when the child is one with a disability. These children have enough obstacles in their way, and inadequate nutrition should not be one of them.

The cornerstone of our effort to assure the nutritional well being of our schoolchildren is the national School Lunch Program, which provides balanced lunches to some 25 million children from all income levels each and every school day. Children with disabilities are entitled to participate in this program, too. Yet many cannot, because in some schools, meals are not modified to meet their special needs.

Among the disabilities that may call for meal modifications are, for example, cerebral palsy, Sistic fibrosis, down syndrome and spinabifida. Changing the texture of food or modifying calories are the most commonly required adjustments. Some children should not eat certain foods at all, and may require the substitution of foods not on the school menu.

USDA child nutrition and Section 504 regulations require schools participating in the school lunch and breakfast programs to provide special meals at no extra charge to children with medical certification that disabilities restrict their diets. These regulations put the burden on parents to request special meals. Yet many parents, school administrators and teachers do not know these regulations exist.

For example, in a 1986 survey of special education coordinators and district school food service directors in five southwestern states, 45 percent of the respondents did not answer the questions on implementation of USDA's 504 regulations. Sixty-two percent of the special education coordinators and 31 percent of the district school food service directors indicated they encouraged parents to provide their children's daytime meals. These results suggest, at least in some cases, a lack of familiarity with, or enforcement of, these regulations. And if professionals are unaware that the regulations exist, no wonder parents, who rely on them for information, are in the dark, too.

Parents, school food service personnel, and dietitians specializing in this area have shared with me the difficulties children face because these regulations are not well publicized, or fully enforced. Some schools can't or won't purchase the equipment or foods which cafeteria workers need for special meals. Or the

regular meal may be dumped in a blender, ground up, and served, no matter how unpalatable the result. Part of the reason some schools do not fully comply may be that USDA's policy instruction does not make clear that schools are expected to make textural and caloric changes as well as food substitutions.

Lack of access to special meals in a particular hardship for low-income families who cannot afford to make their children's lunches. Their children must eat whatever is on the school menu, no matter how inappropriate or even dangerous it may be. Or, if a child is lucky, the teacher may provide snacks or even baby food, often at his or her own expense.

The challenge of meeting the nutritional needs of students with disabilities will become greater as medical technology, early intervention programs, and substance abuse by pregnant women

increase the numbers of children with disabilities entering school. Many teachers and school food service workers are responding to this challenge. But we still need greater coordination between teachers, school food service personnel, and children's health care providers. More attention must be paid to nutrition in the development of individual education plans, and more training of school staff in this area is required. The excellent manuals on special nutrition already available also need to be more widely disseminated.

Mr. President, passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act last year committed Congress and the country to bringing people with disabilities into the mainstream of our society. Ensuring that students with disabilities can participate in school meal programs is an important step toward this goal. Let's knock down this barrier and let's do it soon."

Hutchinson News Monday, June 10, 1991

Dole calls for repeal of luxury tax

WASHINGTON — Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole said Sunday he wants to repeal a tax on luxury items he says has had a greater impact on middle-income Americans than expected.

The levy, Dole said on CBS' "Face the Nation," was intended "to soak the rich."

"It turned out the rich happened to be the middle class that the Democrats say they're trying to help," Dole said. "A lot of middle class people are losing their jobs now and the tax is not bringing in as much money."

The so-called luxury tax is a 10 percent charge on a portion of the price of such items as high-priced cars, boats, jewelry, furs and private airplanes that was included in last year's budget compromise.

The Kansas Republican, who blamed House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., for insisting the provision be included in the budget legislation, said he would offer a bill this week to repeal the tax.

Gephardt said the tax was included in the budget package because several other tax increases such as those on gasoline, cigarettes and alcohol fell most heavily on people in the middle income levels and the luxury tax "was one small step toward tax equity."

The Salina Journal Monday, June 10, 1991

Dole wants to repeal luxury tax

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The Kansas Republican, who blamed House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., for insisting the provision be included in the budget legislation, said he would offer a bill this week to repeal the tax.

"The Republican recession, not the tax, is causing people to lose jobs," Gephardt said.

Gephardt said the tax was included in the budget package because several other tax increases such as those on gasoline, cigarettes and alcohol fell most heavily on people in the middle income levels and the luxury tax "was one small step toward tax equity."

"When the recession ends, the wealthier people are going to continue to buy expensive planes ... and wealthy Americans have to be a part of this budget deficit reduction," Gephardt said, adding that he would oppose any effort to repeal the tax.

Dole didn't offer details, but said he would "find an offset" to make up for revenue lost in repealing the tax.

The Topeka Capital Journal, Monday, June 10, 1991

Dole: Stop fight on rights

■ Senator says Congress playing politics, compromise possible on civil rights

By WILLIAM J. EATON Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — It is time for both Republicans and Democrats to stop playing politics with civil rights and instead work out a compromise to deal with job discrimination, Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., said Sunday.

"We ought to settle it," Dole said on the CBS' "Face the Nation."

The GOP leader said he expects the Senate to take up a job discrimination bill in the next three or four weeks, adding: "I think there's a willingness on the part of all parties to try to handle this ... but I must say that some members of my party and others of the other party like the politics of it."

"Democrats want to attack us as, quote, 'racist,' and we want to go out there and say they're for quotas. So my idea is we ought to get this behind us."

Dole praised a proposal by Sen. John C. Danforth, R-Mo., and eight other Republican moderates as a "constructive effort to find some way out of this impasse, some way to end the politics on each side of civil rights."

But he noted all but one of the Republicans who have endorsed the Danforth approach voted last year to override President Bush's veto of a bill to curb job discrimination. His veto was sustained by a single vote. Dole's comments came after a week of bitter exchanges between Bush and his Republican allies in the House and Democratic congressional leaders over whether a House-approved civil rights bill would lead to racial hiring and promotion quotas.

After decisively rejecting a bill last Tuesday that was backed by the administration, the House a day later approved by a 273-158 vote a plan endorsed by the House Democratic leadership. It includes an explicit ban on quotas, but still was attacked by the president as a "quota bill."

House Majority Leader Richard A. Gephardt, D-Mo., charged that Bush was trying to score political points from racial polarization, an allegation that Bush vehemently denied.

Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said he would suspend judgment on Bush's motives until he sees how the White House reacts to the Danforth plan.

At issue are a series of 1989 Supreme Court decisions that cut back the scope of laws against job discrimination and put heavier burdens on those making charges of job bias.

While the House bill and Danforth's plan would reverse the effects of the high court rulings, the administration bill would have reversed the effects of only one and modified two others.

Page 8—The Russell Daily News, Wednesday, June 12, 1991

Sen. Dole Appoints Kansan To Indian Education Board

WASHINGTON — Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, on May 14 announced the appointments of Bob G. Martin, president of Haskell Indian Junior College in Lawrence, Kan., and Robert K. Chiago of Mesa, Ariz., to positions on the Advisory Committee on the White

House Conference on Indian Education.

Martin's appointment by Dole was strongly endorsed by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Wichita, Kassebaum is a member of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, which is the oversight committee for the White House Indian Education Conference.

"Bob Martin is a nationally-recognized education leader in the Native American community," said Dole. "His experience in and continued commitment to Native American issues makes him an outstanding addition to the Advisory Committee."

"Few in the country have a better understanding of the educational needs of Native Americans than Bob Martin," Kassebaum said. "He will add an important perspective to the Advisory Committee by stressing the importance of higher education at schools like Haskell."

Martin was born in Pryor, Okla., and is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. Before becoming the president of Haskell, Martin served as president of Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, N.M.

Martin is also a member of the Indian Nations at Risk Task Force, which advises and makes recommendations to the U.S. Secretary of Education on the condition of education of Native Americans in the United States. Additionally, Martin is a member of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce and the Lawrence Human Relations Commission.

Chiago, who was originally nominated by Arizona Sen. John McCain, is a member of the Navajo Tribe. He now serves on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Native American Veterans Coordinating Council. Chiago is currently the director of the Department of Education, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community in Mesa.

6A THE WICHITA EAGLE Monday, June 10, 1991

Dole urges peace on rights bill

By William J. Eaton Los Angeles Times/Washington Post Service

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But he noted that all but one of the Republicans — Warren Rudman of New Hampshire — who have endorsed the Danforth approach voted last year to override President Bush's veto of a bill designed to curb job discrimination. His veto was sustained by a single vote.

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Sen. Bob Dole

THE HAYS DAILY NEWS MONDAY JUNE 10, 1991

Dole wants luxury tax repealed

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The assessment was intended "to soak the rich," the Kansas Republican said on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation."

"It turned out the rich happened to be the middle class that the Democrats say they're trying to help," he said. "A lot of middle class people are losing their jobs now and the tax is not bringing in as much money."

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