

FROM: THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE
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HAYS, Kansas., April 27 -- Congressman Bob Dole tonight urged businessmen to take a greater lead in politics and community affairs.

Speaking at a regional Jaycee meeting here, the Kansas Congressman said, "Many businessmen say they are fearful they might alienate customers if they take active part in politics and community events."

"The American businessman," Dole said, "ought to be more concerned about losing control of his business if he doesn't get involved."

"Too many are content to let the other fellow do it," Dole said. "And unless citizens become actively involved in public affairs, government will try to get its hand into everything."

"Government cannot do everything, nor should we want it to," he said.

"The war on poverty has proven that beyond a shadow of a doubt," he added. "Billions of dollars have been expended and still there are riots and looting and demands for more federal aid."

"If five or even 10 billion dollars has not made any appreciable dent in the poverty of this country," Dole said, "the ultimate answer is not the expenditure of 20 or 50 billion dollars by the government."

"Government aid can only support," he added. "Massive federal doses of money and manpower cannot solely strike at the causes of our explosive problems."

To encourage more business involvement in communities, the Kansas Congressman said the government should provide tax incentives, credit incentives and others.

"Business and industry can lead the way," Dole said. "Such a crusade by individuals calls not for complacency, but commitment, not for derision but dedication, not for indifference but involvement."