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WASHINGTON, D.C., May 12 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today cosponsored a bill to construct neighborhood health centers in rural and urban areas.

Introduced recently by U.S. Senator Charles Percy (R-Ill.), the bill amends the Hill-Burton Act and seeks to build a system of neighborhood comprehensive ambulatory care centers to bring better health care into areas of low physician accessibility. While the bill changes the Hill-Burton formula to give greater weight to states with large medically indigent populations, no state will receive less than they do under the existing formula.

"This bill is a significant attempt to extend good, comprehensive health care to all U.S. citizens, regardless of their place of residence or income," Dole said. "It goes a long way toward assuring that the important dollar spent on health is used more effectively and efficiently."

"Top quality health care for all Americans is yet an unachieved, but worthy goal for our country," he added. "The nation's health is our most valuable possession and one of our soundest investments."