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KANSAS CITY, Kans., May 31 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole last night said the Nixon Administration is "deeply committed to assuring equality of opportunity and advancement" for Mexican-Americans.

Speaking here at the G.I. Forum, Dole said, "One of the first activities of President Nixon was a memo to his cabinet officers, asking for a new focus on the problems of the Mexican-Americans."

Noting that the position of assistant secretary for bilingual and multicultural education in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has been created, Dole added, "President Nixon has asked for an 800 percent increase in funds allocated for the bilingual education act."

He pointed out while the Johnson Administration had requested seven million dollars, President has asked for \$45 million to help school-age children become more functional in English.

Dole noted Nixon also has appointed several Mexican-Americans to top federal positions including Hilary Sandoval, administrator of the Small Business Administration and Carlos Villarreal, administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

For the first time in U.S. history, he added, the Census Bureau plans to take a comprehensive count of Spanish-speaking people. Previously the Census Bureau surveyed only Spanish-speaking Americans in five southwestern states.

"The data obtained from throughout the entire U.S. will be of great aid in assuring that federal programs really reach the people for whom they were intended," he said.

"Your contributions to America are unique and irreplaceable," Dole told the Mexican-Americans. "Your heritage--with its roots deep in ancient civilization--has added a vital spirit and quality of life to the United States."