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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Nov. 21, 1969---The National Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults tonight gave its top award to U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.)

The award, presented here at a national convention of the group, was in recognition of Dole's concern and achievements for the handicapped as exemplified by his efforts in interpreting, not only the needs of these people, but the tremendous contributions they can make to the United States."

Dole, a disabled war veteran, delivered his first major Senate speech on America's 42 million handicapped persons. In the speech, he urged President Nixon to appoint a White House task force on the handicapped. Last month, a task force on the physically handicapped was appointed. Dole hopes the President will soon appoint a similar group for the mentally handicapped.