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WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 8, 1970--U.S. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) termed the passage of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 "a positive legislative contribution in the war against drugs."

In a statement on the Senate floor Dole said, "No one can possibly deny the epidemic proportions which the drug abuse problem has reached today. Throughout the country, drug availability continues to alarm concerned citizens and particularly parents whose children are exposed daily to offers from friends who want company in the drug abuse habit."

The Kansas Senator reported that in his home state narcotics arrests are up 130% for the first six months of 1970, as compared to the same period in 1960 and in 1969, arrests for narcotic violations increased 100.9% over 1968 and that in 1970, the figures for the first six months indicate there was a 135% increase.

Noting the increased narcotics arrests and the rising crime rate, Dole stated, "In the period from 1966 to 1969, the overall crime rate increased in Kansas 29%. This included: 89% for robberies; 56% for auto theft, and 50% for larceny. It is not clear how much crime is attributable to drug abuse. However, estimates involving the relationship between drug addiction and street crime range from 50% up.

"Although this legislation will be of assistance, it must be made clear that the ultimate responsibility for education and enforcement remains with the state and local government. We are revising and modernizing only the existing federal laws and in no way seek to preempt existing state laws. But the Federal government must provide the leadership, and by passing this bill, we have encouraged the states to make a greater efforts to protect our young people."