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WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 9, 1971 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.)

is cosponsoring legislation that could both alleviate certain unemployment problems in the United States and help to close the health manpower gap.

The Kansas Senator is cosponsoring S 2304, which would authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to fund programs specifically designed to provide additional training for veterans who possess medical skills.

Dole pointed out that each year, about 30,000 men and women skilled in the medical field, leave the Armed Forces --- and in the midst of a critical shortage of qualified health manpower.

The measure, entitled Veterans' Allied Health Professions Training Assistance Program, would provide for specific programs to supplement and complement the veterans' military training. Dole commented, "The veteran could enter the health field without wasting his time in programs designed for persons without previous training in health careers."

Participants in these specialized training programs, Dole said, would be able to use the educational benefits of the G.I. Bill to finance their training.

Senate Bill 2304 would authorize \$2,000,000 for the first fiscal year and \$3,000,000 per year for the next six years. The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs would distribute the funds, in the form of grants, to medical training programs affiliated with Veterans' Administration hospitals. Dole said he believes that "The Veterans' Administration is well-qualified to undertake such a program. For more than 25 years, it has been conducting training programs in allied health occupations."