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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Toward Utilizing Full Potential"

WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 4, 1971 ---- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.)

said there is a definite relationship between poverty and disability, in remarks prepared for delivery Friday in Wichita, Kansas.

The Kansas Senator will address members of the Kansas Speech and Hearing Association Friday at 7 p.m. at the Ramada Inn.

Following are excerpts from the prepared text:

"The disabled are too often poor and the poor are too often disabled. Public Health figures show that there exists a general ratio of 50 per cent disability for families with incomes of under \$3,000 and a contrasting 10 to 11 per cent occurrence in families making \$7,000 or more. Figures from the Rehabilitation Services Administration (HEW) support this observation. In 1971, 70 per cent of those rehabilitated had family incomes below the poverty level when first accepted for rehabilitation services.

A major role is envisioned for the present state-federal program of vocational rehabilitation in the President's welfare reform measure. The rehabilitation program will continue to serve disabled persons, as it has successfully done all along; but the rehabilitation program will shift emphasis to more welfare clients as a source of referral of disabled clients, and the services that will be most appropriate to their needs. Some form of mandatory screening will be established so that persons too disabled to work will have the opportunity to receive rehabilitation services as appropriate to their disability. The overall rehabilitation program is now serving more than one million persons at any one time, with last year's rehabilitation placing more than 291,000 into gainful employment."

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Following this speech in Wichita, Senator Dole is expected to attend the Western States VFW Conference also in Wichita, at the Regal Inn. On Saturday he will be in Kansas City, Kansas, where at 10:30 a.m. he will address members of the Sunflower Federation of the Blind.