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WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 9, 1971 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.)  
cosponsored a resolution in the Senate recently which emphasized  
that the mentally and physically handicapped should have the same  
basic rights as other human beings.

Senate Current Resolution 52, which was referred to the Senate  
Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, stressed the need and right  
of handicapped persons to be able to obtain appropriate education.

In support of the legislation, the Kansas Senator said:

One of the most significant provisions in this  
resolution is the acknowledgement that the mentally  
or physically handicapped person has a right to  
education and training. Most of these individuals  
could become independent or semi-independent if ad-  
equate education or training were available to them.  
It is virtually impossible for them to enjoy the  
dignity of self-sufficiency or usefulness, however,  
without it.

Dole pointed out that of the seven million handicapped children  
in the United States, according to the Office of Education, 60  
per cent are denied entry into public schools. He said hundreds of  
thousands are committed to institutions and other programs where  
little more than physical sustenance is provided. "Such sustenance,"  
he said, "costs at least \$150,000 for a lifetime of care --- a cost  
far in excess of what education or training for a mentally handicapped  
person would cost."

Dole said that the pending resolution, while it would not eliminate  
the injustices that the mentally and physically handicapped now face,  
"it represents an expression of Congressional support to bring attention  
to the inequities suffered by these individuals."