



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

IMMEDIATELY

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 17, 1972 ---- U.S. Senators James B. Pearson and Bob Dole, Kansas Republicans, announced today that in response to their joint effort on Wednesday, a major obstacle to approval of the proposed Topeka Federal Office Building has been overcome.

The Kansas Senators, who were the original proponents of the new Topeka federal facility, expressed their pleasure that such a rapid response had been forthcoming.

In reply to their letter of Wednesday to Postmaster General E.T. Klassen, the Senators were notified that the Postal Service does not intend to request a space allotment in the new facility. The effect of the Postal Service's decision will be that the General Services Administration can now complete its plans and proceed with the next step toward construction, which is project approval by the Office of Management and Budget in the White House.

Pearson and Dole have received assurances from Acting GSA Administrator Rod Kreger and Public Buildings Commissioner Arthur Sampson that final work on the project prospectus will now be expedited and submission for OMB approval can be expected within the next few weeks.

As outlined in the Senator's letter Wednesday, the obstacle blocking progress for the proposed federal building had been the delay by the Postal Service in notifying GSA as to whether it would require space in the building. All other federal agencies had furnished their space requirements to GSA, and a decision from the Postal Service was the only block to development and submission of a final project prospectus for OMB approval.

The Postal Service did indicate that the location of the new federal building might raise the possibility of utilizing some of its space for a finance station at some time in the future.