



# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SIGNED

WASHINGTON, D.C.      After attending Wednesday morning's White House ceremony marking the signing by President Nixon of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Senator Bob Dole called the new law "a giant step in the right direction which will lead, hopefully, to further improvements in voc rehab efforts across the country".

Dole commented specifically on two provisions of the Act which were added as a result of his efforts to amend the bill during Senate consideration. One Dole amendment dealt with the problems of architectural barriers which often serve to deny the handicapped access to buildings. Under the new law, an Architectural Transportation Barriers Compliance Board is established. The Board will have the authority to ensure that new government buildings under construction are made accesible to the handicapped, will report on ways of eliminating architectural transportation barriers in general, and will pursue methods for reducing or offsetting additional travel costs incurred by the handicapped.

Dole also expressed satisfaction at the inclusion in the bill of a Client Assistance provision which, he said, "makes a good start toward

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meeting the need for enhanced methods of disseminating information

to the handicapped about available assistance programs. The

client assistance provision requires the establishment of pilot

information projects staffed by counsellors to inform and advise

persons in need of help under the Vocational Rehabilitation Act.