

601



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R. Kans.)

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1974

EMERGENCY BROADCASTS PERMITTED BY FCC, SAYS DOLE

EMPORIA, KANSAS -- Senator Bob Dole has learned that Federal Communications Commission regulations permit radio stations authorized to broadcast at full power only during daytime hours, to transmit emergency information, where necessary, outside of their regularly authorized hours. "Under Section 73.98 of the FCC regulations," Dole said, "a Kansas station may inform its listeners that in the event of an emergency, the station would come on the air at full power at specified times to broadcast emergency information."

"The most common example of this," Dole added, "would come in the case of a heavy snow. If parents know in advance that their local station would come on at a predetermined time, say 7:30 or 8:00 with school closing announcements for their area, than both school officials and parents would be much better off. I understand that FCC regulations do permit this and trust affected Kansas stations will want to make the appropriate arrangements."

Dole had been in contact with FCC chairman Dean Burch on this matter last week. Dole sought clarification of the regulations in light of the recent imposition of Winter Daylight Savings time which is keeping some sunrise stations from coming on the air at full power until as late as 9:00am in some areas of the state.