



SENATOR BOB DOLE

Temporary Chairman

1976 Republican National Convention News

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CONTACT: Janet Anderson 467-1927
Mary Wheat 471-1400, Rm. 727

DOLE'S SPEECH TO BE INTERPRETED IN SIGN LANGUAGE BY ULA WILLIAMS OF K.C.

KANSAS CITY -- A special sign language interpretation of Senator Bob Dole's address to Monday evening's session of the Republican National Convention will be available to television viewing audiences. The interpretation will be performed by Ula Williams of Kansas City as the speech is delivered.

Dole, who is active in issues concerning handicapped individuals, proposed language for the Republican Platform calling attention to the fact that often the handicapped population has been denied rights taken for granted by others and pledging action to correct this discrimination. "It is important that deaf and hearing impaired citizens have the opportunity to share in Republican Convention proceedings. Our Platform advocates the elimination of needless barriers for all handicapped persons and this is a step toward breaking down communications' barriers," said Dole, who requested the interpretation.

Mrs. Williams, 4652 North Highland, Kansas City, Missouri, has a Comprehensive Skills Certificate, the highest rating available from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. Both her parents have been deaf since childhood and she learned sign and oral language simultaneously. Her father, Mr. Uel Hurd, has taught at the Kansas School for the Deaf in Olathe for nearly 40 years.

Mrs. Williams is in her mid-thirties, the mother of three children, all with normal hearing, and the wife of Mr. William Williams, a cost accountant with Milbank Manufacturing.

She currently works on a contractual basis with vocational rehabilitation programs in Wyandotte and Johnson counties in Kansas and is involved in obtaining work for deaf and hearing impaired persons in the area.