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DOLE WELCOMES PARTICIPATION OF BLACK REPUBLICANS

Washington, D.C. --- On the eve of the first Congressional Congress of the National Black Republican Council (NBRC) in Washington, D.C. Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas) welcomed input from black Americans into the Republican Party.

Today Council members and other black Republicans are meeting on Capitol Hill with Senators and Congressmen, to discuss the critical issues facing blacks -- education, employment, housing, and minority business development. In a letter to the Council Chairman James C. Cummings, Jr. of Indianapolis, Dole urged that outcomes and recommendations resulting from the full day of meetings and workshops should form the nucleus for a renewed dialogue between black Americans and the Republican Party; a dialogue that will outline the legislative and administrative strategies and programs the Republican Party must take to be more responsive to the needs and interests of all Americans. The full text of Senator Dole's letter follows.

Mr. James C. Cummings, Jr.  
Chairman, National Black Republican Council  
301 First Street, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Jim:

As the National Black Republican Council convenes this day of Capitol Hill workshops, I want to congratulate its officers and members for the Council's efforts to make the Republican Party more open and more responsive to black Americans.

The Council's focus on critical areas of concern to black people -- jobs, housing, educational opportunity, business enterprise development -- should be an integral part of the Republican Party's renewed commitment to blacks, to their full participation in the affairs of our Party and Nation.

At the end of these meetings and after the Council formulates specific recommendations, I would be anxious to meet with a task force from the Council to discuss concrete methods of implementing policies which address the needs of blacks, including new legislative initiatives and programs to interest more of our black citizens in the Republican Party.

I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future and wish you continued success in your efforts to make our Party more responsive to all Americans.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE  
United States Senate