

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE ANNOUNCES SENATE HEARINGS ON ADOPTION FRAUD--
HOUSE MEMBERS TO INTRODUCE SIMILAR MEASURE

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole today announced that the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold hearings on his bill, the Anti-Fraudulent Adoption Practices Act, on Friday, March 16, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 562, Dirksen Senate Office Building. Senator Dole also today praised Rep. Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Rep. Jack Brooks (D-TX) for introducing a similar measure in the House.

Witnesses at the hearing will include Kansas Attorney General Bob Stephan, who earlier this week filed suit against persons alleged to be behind the "Mexican Adoption Scam," a babies-for-sale swindle that has bilked thousands of dollars from couples in Kansas and as many as 21 other states. Also testifying will be Chief John Grubb, the one-man police force from Chase, Kansas, whose work on the adoption scam has focused national attention on the problem. Rep. Roberts will introduce Chief Grubb at the hearing.

Other witnesses will be couples from Kansas and Iowa who fell victim to the alleged scheme; Ms. Louise Pittman of the Alabama Bureau of Family and Children Services; representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Department of State.

"These hearings will help give the Committee a more clear picture of adoption fraud in general, and the Mexican Adoption Scam in particular," said Senator Dole.

Senator Dole will chair the hearing along with Senator Jeremiah Denton of Alabama, Chairman of the Senate Labor Subcommittee on Family and Human Services. Among those Senators on the panel will be cosponsor Charles Grassley (R-IA). Senators Roger Jepsen (R-IA), Lloyd Bentsen (D-TX), and Orrin Hatch (R-UT) are also cosponsors of the legislation.