

# BOB DOLE



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## DOLE LEADS KANSAS/MISSOURI DELEGATION REQUEST FOR CORPS STUDY OF KANSAS CITY AREA FLOODING

WASHINGTON -- Concerned by a history of flooding in the Kansas City area, Kansas Senator Bob Dole is leading a Kansas-Missouri delegation request to have the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to complete a study of the Blue River Valley and other waterways in the surrounding area to determine what can be done to decrease the risk and severity of flooding.

The joint letter from Senators Dole, Kassebaum, Eagleton and Danforth was sent today to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, Senator Robert Stafford (R-Vt.)

In recent weeks a number of counties in our states have experienced serious flood damage following days of torrential rainstorms. At this time, the estimated cost of damage in those areas exceeds \$81 million with losses to private dwellings, businesses, sewer systems, bridges and extensive agricultural damage. This figure is likely to increase as additional rains continue to feed the already swollen rivers and streams in the affected counties. In both states steps have been taken to secure federal disaster assistance for those who have experienced losses due to this unfortunate catastrophe.

While we are hopeful that our request for assistance will be processed quickly, our purpose for writing today is to bring to your attention efforts underway in greater Kansas City, Kansas, and Missouri, to identify the conditions that exist which have led to this recent flooding and to determine what corrective measures can be taken.

The cities of Overland Park and Leawood in Kansas as well as Kansas City, Kansas, and Kansas City, Missouri, have requested the Army Corps of Engineers to study the Blue River Valley, including the tributaries of Indian Creek, Tomahawk Creek, Wolf Creek and Coffey Creek, which run through the Kansas City metropolitan area, to determine what steps can be taken to eliminate and/or lessen flood damage along these waterways. We support these efforts and are writing to seek committee authorization for this necessary study.