

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE, KASSEBAUM AND ROBERTS CALL FOR TOUR STOP IN WAKEENEY

Torch To Return To Liberty Island

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum and Congressman Pat Roberts are contacting Lee Iacocca, Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation in support of a bid by WaKeeney to be designated as a stop on the cross-country tour of the original Statue of Liberty torch.

"We will do all we can to 'Bring the torch to Kansas' and intend make sure that the Foundation understands our continued support," said Dole, Kassebaum and Roberts.

With the aid of the three member of Congress, WaKeeney had earlier asked to have the torch placed on permanent display on a site adjacent to Interstate Highway 70. In response to a letter from Senators Dole and Kassebaum, the Interior Department announced its decision to return the torch to Liberty Island for permanent display following the Rose Bowl Parade on New Year's Day 1985, and a nation-wide tour.

Senator Dole will be meeting with Mr. Iacocca on November 26, and the two will discuss the possibility of including WaKeeney on the tour at that time.

Following is the text of the letter sent today:

Dear Lee:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our continued support for the efforts of citizens of the WaKeeney, Kansas, community in their quest to display the original torch from the Statue of Liberty there.

WaKeeney's enthusiasm to "Bring the Torch to Kansas" has received strong statewide support, which is reflected in the enclosed letters documenting our earlier endeavors to secure the structure for permanent display on the plains of Kansas. According to word we received from the Department of the Interior, the National Park Service intends to eventually place the torch on permanent display on Liberty Island following its appearance in the Rose Bowl Parade in Los Angeles, California, on New Year's Day, 1985.

We have been advised of proposed plans for an exhibition tour of the torch in several locations across the country following the California appearance. Representatives of Trego County and the City of WaKeeney have indicated that they are contacting you directly, requesting a place on the tour schedule.

As descendants of the immigrants who settled the Midwest, Kansans are anxious to share this important symbol of our heritage. We support the request wholeheartedly and encourage you to designate WaKeeney as a location for the display.