

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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GSA ADMINISTRATOR TO VISIT KCK FOR REVIEW OF FEDERAL OFFICE SITUATION

Washington, DC -- The administrator of the General Services Administration (GSA) has accepted an invitation from Sen. Bob Dole to visit Kansas City this week for a first-hand review of the disparity in federal office space locations between Kansas and Missouri.

Sen. Dole said Terence C. Golden, administrator of the GSA, will spend Thursday touring Kansas City, KS. Golden also will meet with local government officials, developers and property owners in an effort to assess the opportunities for federal office space placement in Kansas, according to Dole.

"It takes just as long to drive from Missouri to Kansas as it does to get from Kansas to Missouri," said Sen. Dole, "so I don't see any reason not to take steps that will bring some balance to the location of federal offices. Of all the government owned or leased space in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area, only six-percent of it is on the Kansas side of the river. For the people of the area these offices serve this space location disparity is inequitable, and it is time we correct it."

Sen. Dole said because of the imbalance in office locations, "Mr. Golden probably won't have to spend more than 20 minutes looking at federal offices located on the Kansas side of the river. The rest of the day will be used to explore opportunities for improving the situation." Dole said two of his top staff aides - Mike Pettit and John Petersen - will accompany Golden during the visit.

Dole said that while the GSA must give greater consideration to locating federal offices in Kansas, he is also encouraging local officials and developers to be more competitive in bidding for federal space. "In all fairness, the GSA is only a part of the equation. In the final analysis, developers and property owners on the Kansas side have to submit the best bids when opportunities arise," said Sen. Dole.