

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## FLOOR STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE INDEPENDENCE DAY 1988

OVER TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO DURING ANOTHER HOT SUMMER, A GROUP OF MEN GATHERED IN PHILADELPHIA TO FORM A NATION. A NATION UNLIKE ANY OTHER IN THE WORLD. A NATION FOUNDED ON A NEW IDEA - EQUALITY OF ALL PEOPLE. A NATION OFFERING ITS CITIZENS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LIBERTIES UNKNOWN IN THAT WORLD AND, SADLY, STILL UNKNOWN IN MUCH OF OUR WORLD TODAY.

THESE PATRIOTS BESTOWED ON US A HERITAGE. A HERITAGE OF LIBERTY AND EQUALITY. A HERITAGE OF FREE AND OPEN GOVERNMENT. A HERITAGE NOBLY SYMBOLIZED BY OUR FLAG, A FLAG THAT HAS FLOWN IN DEFENSE OF LIBERTY FROM YORKTOWN TO NORMANDY, FROM INCHON TO KHE SANH.

BUT OUR FLAG IS MORE THAN A SYMBOL OF MIGHT. OUR FLAG IS A BEACON OF HOPE TO THE WORLD AND A REMINDER OF THE PROMISE OF AMERICA, THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM. THE FREEDOM TO DREAM, AND THE FREEDOM TO REACH AS HIGH AS WE CAN IN PURSUIT OF THOSE DREAMS.

EVERY YEAR FRESH CHAPTERS ARE ADDED TO OUR STORY OF LIBERTY, CHAPTERS INCREASINGLY WRITTEN BY A NEW GENERATION OF AMERICANS.

RECENTLY I WAS VISITED BY A GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM MY HOME STATE OF KANSAS. ONE OF THEM, NANCY ROGERS, A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN LEBOW, KANSAS, HAS REFLECTED ON OUR HERITAGE AND VERY BEAUTIFULLY PUT HER THOUGHTS INTO THE WORDS OF A POEM.

MR. PRESIDENT, IN COMMEMORATION OF AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY, I ASK THAT HER POEM BE INSERTED AS PART OF THE RECORD.

### OUR FLAG

The flag in our classroom  
Lies limp and still,  
As if sleeping so deeply  
And dreaming of a hill;

A hill of freedom  
Of happy and sad  
Much of time lost,  
Both good and bad.

The red is a color  
For all the lives lost,  
And the blood shed -  
Freedom does cost!

The white is so quiet  
It stands for peace,  
For the love and laughter  
Whene'er we meet.

Next is the blue  
The full battlefield,  
Of fifty white stars  
Our sword and shield.

-over-



Once and still today  
This flag so grand  
Went into battle  
Making a stand.

Now we pay homage  
To a past not forgot,  
To both men and boys  
Who on the battlefield fought

For all of our colors  
The RED, WHITE and BLUE  
And so I pass on  
America's heritage to you.

Nancy L. Rogers  
Lebo, Kansas