

Bob Dole



**NEWS**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS**

**FROM:**

**SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 18, 1993

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**STATEMENT OF SENATOR BOB DOLE ON BOEING LAYOFFS**

**WASHINGTON --** Kansas Senator Bob Dole today issued the following statement regarding Boeing's announcement of layoffs in Wichita:

My thoughts today are with the proud and talented workers at Boeing Wichita. As far as I'm concerned, one job lost is too many. Massive losses within the airline industry, predatory pricing of bankrupt airlines, poor management decisions on the part of some of the airlines, and a slowdown in the global economy have all been felt in Wichita.

The fact is, there is no easy or quick fix. But Senator Kassebaum and I are working together to pursue policies, including investment tax credits and bankruptcy reform, that can help revitalize the airline industry and give aircraft sales a lift. Senator Kassebaum and I have also requested the Department of Transportation to commence an immediate study of the industry to determine how it can be returned to profitability. We have asked for results within 90 days.

Boeing CEO Frank Shrontz and I met in my office two weeks ago to discuss the problems facing Boeing and what the company would do to help the workers and their families. He assured me that Boeing is fully committed to easing the transition of its workers who are laid off.

Wichita's Boeing task force is also hard at work devising a package to provide retraining and transition assistance. I have discussed the progress with Lionel Alford, and will continue to work with the task force as they develop a plan of action.

Furthermore, I have discussed this problem with President Clinton, and I hope we can work together to sensibly boost job creation and job retraining. I'll be looking for opportunities in President Clinton's legislative initiatives, but so far, I haven't seen any that will be helpful.

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