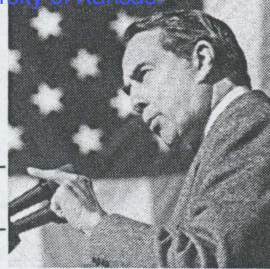


Bob Dole



NEWS

U . S . SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOLE APPOINTS MURKOWSKI TO JAPAN - U.S. FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION

Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) announced today the appointment of Senator Frank Murkowski to the Japan - U.S. Friendship Commission.

"I'm pleased to appoint Frank to serve on the Japan-United States Friendship Commission," Dole said. "No doubt about it, America shares a special relationship with Japan, and Frank's acceptance of this important position demonstrates his commitment to deal with one of our most important bilateral relationships affecting trade, immigration, education and cultural exchanges."

Established by Congress in 1975 as an independent federal agency, the 18 member commission operates like a private foundation. It is the only Federal agency whose sole purpose is to promote friendship and understanding with a single foreign country.

The Commission is authorized to develop and carry out programs at public or private institutions for the promotion of scholarly, cultural and artistic activities in Japan and the United States.

With 80 grants totaling over \$2.6 million each year, requests for grant support will be considered by the Commission in the following project areas: Japanese studies, American studies, the arts, policy-oriented research and public affairs and education.

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