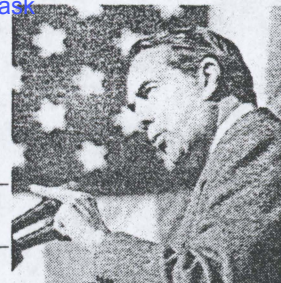


Bob Dole



NEWS

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Senate Recognizes Two Kansas Treasures

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole announced that his proposal to establish Nicodemus, Kansas as a National Historic Site passed the Senate today by voice vote. Nicodemus is the only remaining western town established by African-Americans during the Reconstruction period following the Civil War.

"During the 1870s, the free soil of Nicodemus, Kansas, gave former slaves their first taste of liberty and freedom," Dole said. "Nicodemus became a center of the flourishing black culture and represented individual opportunity for all races. I am proud that this monument of freedom and equality for African Americans will now be preserved adequately."

A provision backed by Senator Dole and Senator Kassebaum designating the Z-Bar Ranch as a National Prairie Park Preserve was also included in the Omnibus Parks Bill, which passed the Senate by voice vote late last night.

"The tall grass prairie is a vital part of the natural environment and heritage of the high plains," Dole said. "The public-private partnership crafted in this bill will help preserve the unique character of this territory. I commend Senator Kassebaum for her tireless efforts to strike an effective balance with this legislation."

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