



FROM SENATOR BOB DOLE

APRIL, 1977

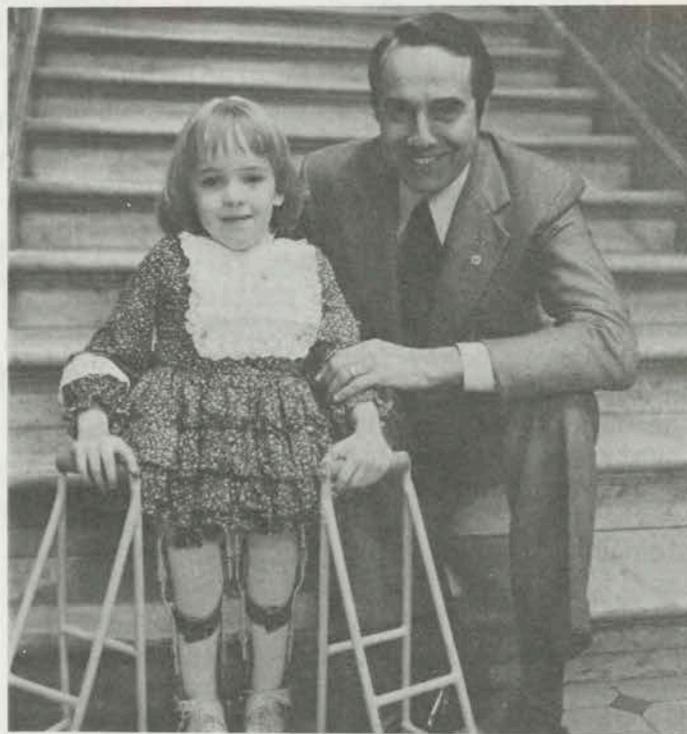
95th Congress Begins Work

The Senate devoted the bulk of the first two months of the 95th Congress to reorganizing its own committee system and confirming the President's cabinet choices. I voted for all of President Carter's cabinet-level nominations except Attorney General Griffin Bell and Paul Warnke to be director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and Chief Negotiator in the Strategic Arms Limitation talks with the Soviet Union. I also publicly stated my opposition to the nomination of Ted Sorensen for director of the CIA, before Mr. Sorensen withdrew his name from consideration. In my opinion, both these men were unqualified for the particular national security positions to which they had been named. Warnke had taken inconsistent positions. His past willingness to cut back on military preparedness without regard for the Soviet Union's weapons development plans made him an inappropriate choice to represent our national interests in the arms limitation talks with the Soviets. Sorensen's expressed low opinion of the intelligence gathering system he was to manage made this an especially odd appointment.

SENATE COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION

The Senate did approve the first comprehensive revision of its committee system since 1946. While retaining special committees for the problems of the elderly and veterans, the Senate reduced the number of committees from 31 to 25 with four more committees to be abolished by the end of

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Senator Dole, a member of the Kansas Easter Seal Board of Directors, with Danya Steele, the 1977 National Easter Seal Child.

Dole Proposals Approved

JOB TAX CREDIT -- Fights unemployment by granting a tax credit to employers who hire new employees during periods of high unemployment. First introduced by Senator Dole in 1965, the measure was included in the economic stimulus packages approved by the full House and a Senate committee.

S. CON. RES. 3 -- Urges the President to create a task force on MIA's and reaffirm the honor of all those who served in the military during the Vietnam conflict. Passed the Senate February 21, 1977.

Issues and Projects Affecting Wyandotte County

FEDERAL JOBS MONEY -- Unemployment has been severe in Wyandotte County. Over 7 percent of the labor force is currently out of work in the county. The federal government can help create more jobs, through changes in taxation of business and industry, and through various federally financed "jobs programs" that make money available for state and local projects that generate employment.

In December, the Economic Development Administration distributed some \$10 million worth of jobs program grants in Kansas. A substantial portion of the Kansas allocation -- about \$1.6 million -- was allocated to projects in Wyandotte County. The Senate has passed an additional public works jobs bill which would allocate \$30 million in additional funds for Kansas public works projects, a portion of which would be allocated to Wyandotte County.

This is money for building that will employ construction workers. According to the way the law was written, Wyandotte County ought to qualify for a "special impact" designation. That would make more of the funds available in communities of high unemployment, the proportion of poor families living there, and movement of people out of the city to live elsewhere. On all counts, Wyandotte deserves special consideration.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT -- The government also can help minority owned businesses get started. The Office of Minority Business Enterprise, with a branch in Kansas City, made it possible for minority businessmen to arrange financing and weather the first few months of operation that are so difficult for any new small business. This is a practical method of using the government to give ambitious Americans a leg up on success. I have introduced a bill that would establish OMBE as a regular agency of the Department of Commerce. The OMBE office is in the Gateway Two Building at Fourth and State.

IRS BUILDING -- Federal installations mean jobs, too -- when they are being built and later when they are open. The Internal Revenue Service is moving forward with its plans to construct a new IRS Center in Kansas City. IRS would like to open the new \$50 million plus facility by 1981.

Kansas City, Kansas, is being considered as a potential site for this building. I have been communicating with local officials for some time on the project and know they are totally committed to bringing the facility to Kansas. We worked for eight years and were able to attract some federal offices to the Kansas side of the line.

This project, however, offers the greatest potential for additional federal office space and jobs. The project would not only mean immediate construction jobs, but could also attract other offices and businesses to nearby sites in Kansas City. This would expand job opportunities and enlarge the Wyandotte County tax base.

For too long, the attributes of Kansas City, Kansas as a federal office center have been ignored. We intend to make certain it is given full consideration for this new project.

WIC -- Last July, after much red tape and technical delay the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (usually referred to as WIC), began operating in Wyandotte County. This is a federal food assistance program which provides food and health care services for pregnant women, infants, and children up to five years of age. It is one of the most popular and effective federal programs. Under WIC, women and children who are in need of nutritional assistance and are below the income limitations may receive medical care and certain food items. The benefits may be used only for dairy products, cereal, fruit juices and certain other highly nutritious foods.

At least twice that many residents of the county are in need of such assistance. Under next year's budget, we are hoping that more people can be helped.

Already the WIC program has proven effective in the prevention of mental retardation, malnutrition, and illnesses caused by improper diet. It is better to prevent health problems before and shortly after birth than to cure them later in life. Women who are pregnant or have infants, cannot afford the proper diet should call the County Health Department for assistance.

Your views are important!

I would welcome your advice on the issues that Congress will be considering in the coming months.

Please indicate your views and make any additional comments in the space provided. Clip off this page of the newsletter, fold it so the return address is showing and mail. No postage is required.

As many as three persons may respond.

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Do you believe higher prices for heating fuel and other forms of energy will be necessary before supplies can be increased to satisfy future demand?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO
Would you be willing to pay higher prices for consumer goods if inflation is the only way to make enough jobs for everyone who wants to work?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO
Do you favor efforts by local, state, and federal officials to locate additional federal offices in Wyandotte County?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO
Do you favor completion of Interstate 435 in Western Wyandotte County?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO
Do you favor busing of school children to achieve school integration in the absence of a showing of an intent to discriminate?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

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next year. Possibly the most beneficial aspect of the reorganization is the consolidation of energy related activities into a single committee -- on Energy and Natural Resources. Last year, Ford administration officials were called before 159 different committees and subcommittees of Congress and were asked to appear 470 different times to answer questions about the administration's energy bill. Fragmented legislative jurisdiction such as this leads to fragmented policy. The reorganization that has taken place should make it easier for the Senate to make rational decisions about subjects that cut across the jurisdictions of several committees. The reduction in the number of committees and subcommittees will make it easier for Senators to devote more time to each of their committee assignments.

PAY RAISE

Unfortunately, members of Congress gave themselves and some of the top executives a pay raise through the back door without giving the matter full consideration. I favor a review of the entire federal pay system. On a preliminary motion, I voted against the attempt to put the raise for members of Congress and the highest paid executives into effect without full debate.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

It is in the committee where the originating legislative action takes place. It is here Senators meet to write the bills that become the laws. I continue to serve on three of the most important committees.

The Budget Committee is responsible for setting the broad limits on how much

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the federal government spends. For the budget year that ends in September, I voted against the resolution that was approved by the Senate and House. It allows the expenditure of almost \$70 billion more than the government will be taking in -- a deficit I think is much too high. The result will probably be higher prices, more inflation, for all of us. Soon we will be considering the President's budget recommendations for the next fiscal year.

I also serve on the Finance Committee. This committee has jurisdiction over the tax policy. Early in this session we have been considering how best to stimulate the economy and get more people back to work without setting off more inflation. The Carter Administration wants to one-time rebate or return of \$50 on 1976 income taxes due in April. This would put a minimal amount of spending money back in the pockets of consumers. But I would prefer a permanent cut in taxes and a requirement that the government halt the rapid growth in spending. Taxes are the fastest growing expense item in the family budget.

Early in March, I sponsored a bill to reform the food stamp program. The changes that I propose would eliminate those who are not poor and do not deserve the cut-rate food. While eliminating these wasteful expenditures, I would simplify the program for those who do need help.

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Bob Dole
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