



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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SENATE TO CONSIDER DOLE BILL TO NAME H.E.W. BUILDING FOR HUMPHREY

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole's bill to name an H.E.W. building in honor of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey will be considered today by the Senate. Following is the statement Senator Dole will make at that time:

Mr. Dole. Mr. President, today we are considering a bill, with unanimous cosponsorship, to name the new HEW building for our distinguished colleague from Minnesota, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey. This is a special action we we are taking to name this building. It is appropriate because Senator Humphrey is a very special individual.

It is uncommon in life to find a man of such courage and compassion, fortitude and decency -- a man whose fighting spirit is surpassed only by his spirit of charity and justice. It is encouraging to find a man such as this, selflessly dedicating himself to public life in the service of the poor and underprivileged.

UNCOMMON INDIVIDUAL

Mr. President, our friend, Hubert Humphrey, is such a man. Since his first days as Mayor of Minneapolis, over thirty years ago, Hubert Humphrey has been a man with a mission. He has spread his message of social and economic justice vigorously and unrelentingly, often championing causes still unpopular, ideas still untried. He has blazed the trail on many key national issues, sometimes raising the standard long before it was taken up by his fellows.

The testament to Hubert Humphrey's success lies in the way the lives of millions of Americans have been improved. Old Americans are healthier, young Americans are better fed and educated, the lives of poor Americans have been made more bearable.

Throughout his legislative career, Hubert Humphrey has touched the lives of almost all of us. He once remarked that his father's drugstore was his life, and seemed it might always be. Fortunately though, Hubert traded the drugstore, traded it to become first a mayor, then United States Senator, Vice-President, and the nominee of his party for President.

PROGRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

These years of public life have been most productive. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was nursed from infancy to its passage by our friend Hubert. The establishment of the Pez Corps and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency are also achievements of which he can be rightly proud. Scores of vital federal programs administered by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare are operating today because Hubert Humphrey fought for them: Medicare, Headstart, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Community Mental Health Act, the Health Professional Scholarships Act. The list -- Hubert Humphrey's record of commitment -- goes on and on.

It is all these achievements that make the new Health, Education and Welfare building so appropriate to name for Hubert H. Humphrey. They reflect something about the very noble character of Senator Humphrey.

Like any great leader, Hubert Humphrey has his critics. I suspect that few of us have always agreed with him on every issue, but no one doubts his sincerity, compassion, or courage. His concern for improving the condition of our people, however he conceives it, is real.

Our colleague is both a great political leader and a man who transcends party politics. He is a patriot, in the truest sense of the word. In his autobiography Hubert writes, "I have loved my country in a way that some people consider sentimental and out of style. I still do, and I remain an optimist, with joy, without apology, about this country."

The Congress of the United States can only honor itself by honoring Hubert Humphrey.

STANDING TRIBUTE

The naming of a building is but a small token of our indebtedness to Hubert Humphrey, but let the unanimous support for this action be symbolic of the appreciation of the country as a whole -- the country which means so much to him.

For generations to come, this building shall serve as a salute to a man we all know so well. It will serve as a reminder of the causes he stands for.

The contemporary architecture of the new HEW building, regardless of our individual views on its aesthetics, seems characteristic of the man we are honoring. For Hubert Humphrey has always been a very contemporary man.

He has been a leader always ready to champion new causes and new ideas. He has always been on the frontier of improved government and social changes.

OVERWHELMING SUPPORT

The prompt and total support for this legislation has been overwhelming. Particular credit should go to the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. Randolph) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Stafford), the Chairman and ranking Republican respectively of the Committee on Environment and Public Works. It was due to their efforts that the bill was reported expeditiously to the Senate.

I also appreciate the support and assistance of the distinguished Minnesota colleague of Senator Humphrey, Senator Anderson. Without his efforts, the passage of this bill would not be possible.

In addition, Congressman Quie and the Minnesota delegation have introduced a companion measure in the House of Representatives. It is my understanding that when the Senate passes S. 2169, the bill will be held at the desk when it is received in the House of Representatives and taken under consideration from there.

The unanimous cosponsorship of this bill by 99 Senators is a great tribute to the character and the achievements of Hubert H. Humphrey.

BIPARTISAN SPIRIT

But I would like to say that this is a bipartisan salute to a great man who has long believed and acted in a bipartisan spirit. It is a reminder that although we may disagree on specific issues, we can still work together in a bipartisan manner to hammer out solutions to the problems of our nation -- solutions that will hopefully be in the best interest of the American public as a whole.

I have worked with Senator Humphrey on many issues, including food stamps, child nutrition, food for peace, and farm legislation, and I know that he stands for bipartisan cooperation. I am pleased with the positive reaction of both parties to this salute, and look forward to future efforts in that spirit, of which Senator Humphrey will be a part.

CONTINUING SERVICE

Hubert Horatio Humphrey will continue to serve his country and contribute to its betterment. We might expect that a man of his spirit would cope with adversity in the supreme manner he is. I know he is continuing to have an impact on legislation and developments even in his absence. He served notice again yesterday that he does not intend to cease.

The people of the United States are fortunate to have Hubert Humphrey in their service. Few have done more to improve the Health, Education, and Welfare of their fellow Americans, and of a great many people throughout the world as well. I would just say Hubert, we salute you, we admire you, and we thank you.