



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1979

CONTACT: BOB WAITE/BILL KATS
(202) 224-8953

DOLE WELCOMES NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM TO THE SENATE

WASHINGTON-- Senator Bob Dole (R.-Kansas) today welcomed Kansas' new junior Senator, Nancy Landon Kassebaum, to the United States Senate.

The following is Senator Dole's statement of welcome:

"Mr. President, this afternoon we have witnessed another of those historic moments which have so distinguished this chamber in the annals of self-government. We have welcomed to our ranks a new colleague, who I predict will earn the warm admiration of her peers as she has won the hearts and minds of her fellow Kansans.

"Now much has been made of Senator Kassebaum's status as a woman-- the first to be elected to the Senate entirely in her own right, the first sent to the Senate from Kansas, the only female Senator in this 96th Congress. It is not surprising that she has been in the limelight during these first few days in Washington. For her election to this body marks an important milestone in the continuing evolution of women in public life.

"But, of course, Nancy Kassebaum is more than a woman. First and foremost, she is a Kansan. She hails from a proud lineage of service to the people of my state. I am conscious today of a torch being passed, as the Landon family launches the newest chapter in an honored tradition of effective and compassionate leadership," said Dole.

"Nancy is her own woman. Her independence and her tenacity are matched only by her intelligence and integrity. As one who has strongly supported her political drives, I am extremely pleased to see her take her seat in the Senate. Her brand of political moderation makes her a welcome addition to the Republican Party and this Congress. Her fresh and original perspective will contribute significantly to our deliberations. For Nancy Kassebaum brings to our work a mind that is penetrating as well as thoughtful, and a compassion that does not exclude government efficiency from its criteria of needs.

"The Senator has enunciated clearly her belief that government should be sensitive to individual need. It should also be sane in spending to meet those needs. These twin principles form the heart and soul of her creative Republicanism. It is a philosophy which this old chamber should embrace without reservation.

"For now, let me say simply that I look forward to working with Senator Kassebaum. I know that I speak for my colleagues when I say 'welcome aboard.' The challenges you face are great. But so are the talents and insights you bring to your new position. In meeting and surmounting those challenges, you confirm the political faith of millions of Americans that women can take their rightful place in society's decision-making process. In this room where history is written with every vote taken, every debate decided, you will make history by your very presence.

"It is a presence we warmly welcome," concluded Senator Dole.