

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE JOINS AS FOUNDER OF NATIONAL WATER ALLIANCE

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole and five other members of Congress have joined to organize the National Water Alliance. As the Executive Committee of what will be a 30 member Board of Directors, they are appealing to leaders from all segments of the private and public sector. The bipartisan group is responding to the growing threat of a major national water crisis.

"In whatever form the problem takes, from water supply contamination, to groundwater depletion, to water supply shortages, water is rapidly becoming a crucial national issue," said Senator Dole. "Water resource experts from across the country warn of the inevitability of a serious water crisis."

"Rather than wait until the crisis is upon us, the time is now for a National Water Alliance to focus attention on water problems and assist in the development of a sound national water policy. By focusing bipartisan effort on real world solutions, I believe the Alliance will help us avoid water emergencies in the future," said Senator Dole.

The other Executive Committee members of the non-profit organization are: Senator Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.), Chairman; Senator Dave Durenberger (R-Minn.), Co-Chairman; Representative Robert Roe (D-N.J.); Representative Thomas Foley (D-Wash.); and Representative John Paul Hammerschmidt (R-Ark.).

The six members of the Executive Committee joined in this unique coalition because of their acknowledgement that the water problems the country faces today know no geographic or political boundaries nor state lines and can only be solved in a national forum.

The four primary goals of the National Water Alliance are:

1. To create a National Water Policy by the spring of 1985. No such policy exists, with the current Administration leaving water matters up to the states.
2. To conduct a public education and information campaign.
3. To conduct symposia across the country, to gather information on each region's specific problems and needs.
4. To act where requested as a third party arbiter in settling disputes, avoiding time consuming court battles.