

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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SENATE OKAYS KANSAN AS NEW DEPUTY LEGAL COUNSEL

WASHINGTON -- Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) today announced Senate approval of the appointment of Kenneth U. Benjamin, Jr., to the office of Deputy Senate Legal Counsel.

A native of Wichita, Kansas, and a graduate of Kansas State University and the University of Kansas Law School, Benjamin has for the past nine years been Assistant Director of Congressional Relations for the American Medical Association. He has previously served on Senator Dole's personal and Finance Committee staffs and has also held positions as Staff Legal Advisor, Board of Veterans Appeals, and practicing attorney in Overland Park, Kansas.

The Office of Senate Legal Counsel has the four major responsibilities of defending the Senate, its committees, members, officers and employees; representing committees of the Senate in proceedings to aid their investigations; appearing for the Senate when it intervenes or appears as amicus in a lawsuit to protect a power or responsibility of the Congress; and advising committees and officers of the Senate. Senator Dole welcomed the background and knowledge of the Senate that Benjamin would bring to the office and considered his experience in working closely with both Democrats and Republicans alike as a particular asset.

"Ken Benjamin has an excellent understanding of the needs of individual Senators and is deeply committed to protecting the interests of the Senate," Dole stated. "His skills as a legislative advocate will also contribute greatly to his success in support of the role of the Senate Legal Counsel." The term of the Deputy Counsel position to which Benjamin is being appointed will be for the remainder of the 99th Congress, beginning May 7, 1985, and all of the 100th Congress through 1988.