



THE DOLE FOUNDATION
FOR EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: July 20, 1995
TO: Senator Dole
FROM: Paul Hearne
SUBJECT: Remarks for July 25 Event -- Old Ebbitt Grill

Senator, attached are your remarks for the celebration of the 5th Anniversary of ADA and the creation of the new organization "American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)." This event will be held **July 25, 1995, at the Old Ebbitt Grill, 15th & G Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.** Your remarks are scheduled at **approximately 6:35 p.m.** A draft copy of the program is also included in the packet. Please let me know if there is anything else that I can do.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Attachments

- Senator Dole's Remarks
- Draft Program

SENATOR DOLE REMARKS
ADA CELEBRATION AND
INAUGURATION OF THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

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CONGRATULATIONS ON THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT! JULY 26, 1990, IS A LANDMARK DATE FOR ALL CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES. IT IS ALSO A LANDMARK FOR ALL AMERICANS SINCE IT IS THE DATE WHEN PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES BECAME FULL PARTNERS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY.

**I ALSO CONGRATULATE ALL OF YOU
HERE TONIGHT ON THE INAUGURATION
AND BOARD ELECTION OF THE NEW
"AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES (AAPD)." THIS NON-
P A R T I S A N M E M B E R S H I P
ORGANIZATION HAS A POTENTIAL
MEMBERSHIP OF OVER 49 MILLION
PEOPLE. THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE
OTHERS AFFECTED BY MANY ASPECTS
OF DISABILITY IN THEIR LIVES. IN MY
VIEW, THIS ORGANIZATION
REPRESENTS THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP
TO ACTUALLY REMOVE THE BARRIERS
THAT THE ADA INTENDS TO ELIMINATE.**

I KNOW THAT MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THIS HAVE BEEN TRIED BEFORE; BUT THESE ARE DIFFERENT TIMES. THE ADA HAS PAVED THE WAY FOR NEW RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN BUSINESS AND DISABILITY ISSUES. MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, LOCAL COMMUNITIES ARE AWARE OF THEIR CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES TO REMOVE THE BARRIERS THAT PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES CONFRONT SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

TECHNOLOGY HAS BROUGHT VAST NEW WORLDS INTO OUR HOMES AND WILL BE A CHANGING FORCE IN

COMMUNICATIONS FOR ALL OF US. TELECOMMUNICATIONS WILL REVOLUTIONIZE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE ESPECIALLY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. I HOPE THAT THIS NEW ORGANIZATION WILL UTILIZE THIS MEDIUM BOTH TO RECRUIT AND TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO ITS MEMBERSHIP.

FINALLY, FOR THE ADA TO WORK THE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MUST BECOME MORE THE RULE RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION. THOSE NOT WORKING OR OUT OF THE WORKFORCE MUST BECOME TAX PAYERS IN ORDER TO RECOGNIZE

THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. THE "AAPD" MUST ADOPT PRACTICES DESIGNED TO COUNTERACT THE DISTURBING EMPLOYMENT PROBLEM AND FULFILL THE DREAM OF THE ADA.

BANDING TOGETHER AND USING MEMBERSHIP DUES AND PRIVATE SUPPORT TO SOLVE THESE QUESTIONS IS THE RIGHT APPROACH. IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, I WILL LOOK CLOSELY AT THE GROWTH AND POTENTIAL OF THIS ORGANIZATION WITH A GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST.

MANY TIMES I'VE PONDERED THE QUESTION OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE

HAPPENED TO ME, HAD THE PEOPLE OF RUSSELL, KANSAS NOT COME TO MY AID MANY YEARS AGO. THOSE GOOD PEOPLE RAISED MONEY TO HELP ME, SO I COULD HELP MYSELF. AT THAT TIME, NEITHER THE PEOPLE OF RUSSELL NOR I HAD ANY IDEA HOW FAR THEIR HELP WOULD ALLOW ME TO GO.

IN THE SAME WAY, AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THIS ORGANIZATION TONIGHT, ON THE EVE OF THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADA, I THINK WE DO NOT KNOW THE POTENTIAL OF HOW FAR THIS ORGANIZATION WILL PROPEL PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO GO.