MEMORANDUM

Date: September 9, 1994

To: Senator Dole

From: Alec Vachon

Re: Invitation to Testify at Helsinki Commission Hearing on

International Disability Rights

* Attached is an invitation from the Helsinki Commission to testify at its first hearing on international disability rights, to be held on September 21st, 2-4 p.m., in 2212 Rayburn. (According to Tyler, you are currently free at these times.)

- * As the invitation states, this hearing is a direct outgrowth of your bill last year "Disability Rights in American Foreign Policy Act" (S. 1256). As you know, even before legislative action, the State Department went ahead and did what you asked included an examination of discrimination against people with disabilities in its Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 1993. (N.B. I am preparing for your signature a letter to Secretary Christopher congratulating him for his initiative in this regard with recommendations for improvements in the 1994 reports.)
- * Also scheduled to testify are John Shattuck, Assistant Secretary for Human Rights; Justin Dart; and Judy Heumann.
- * If you decide not to attend, the Commission would be interested in written testimony for the record. In addition, you might send TYs to DeConcini and Hoyer.

OPTIONS:

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I WILL NOT ATTEND, BUT PREPARE TESTIMONY TO BE SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD & TYS TO DECONCINI & HOYER.

I WILL ATTEND, PREPARE TESTIMONY.

OTHER.

cc: Yvonne

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

234 FORD HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515

(202) 225-1901

September 6, 1994

The Honorable Bob Dole Minority Leader United States Senate 141 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

On September 21, 1994, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., in 2212 Rayburn House Office Building, the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe will convene a hearing to examine America's role in promoting international disability rights. As you are the primary sponsor of the "Disability Rights in American Foreign Policy Act of 1993", we wish to invite you to appear at this Commission hearing.

Assistant Secretary of State John Shattuck, whose humanitarian affairs bureau is responsible for reporting on discrimination against people with disabilities worldwide, will also appear.

We know you share our belief that the United States should take an active role in promoting disability rights and providing assistance to other nations to help them design medical and rehabilitation services for their citizens with disabilities. We hope that you will be able to join us at this important hearing.

Sincerely,

DENNIS DeCONCINI

Chairman

STENY M. HOYER Co-Chairman