

MEMORANDUM TO SENATOR DOLE

DA: July 24, 1995

FR: Alec Vachon ✓

RE: LETTER FOR SIGNATURE--TO ACCOMPANY KANSAS GRANT APPLICATION
TO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO FUND A STATEWIDE ADA CONFERENCE

Attached for signature is a letter of support--to accompany a grant application from the Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns to the Justice Department for funding for a statewide conference on ADA to be held in May 1996. The conference will allow Kansas county, city, and town officials--together with the disability community--to exchange information about what has worked in their communities to implement ADA.

This project is one outcome of about a year's worth of work with the Department of Justice to improve their technical assistance efforts, and about six months of work with Kansans to apply for a grant. This conference will hopefully be a model for other states.

BOB DOLE

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COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE NUTRITION AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
RULES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1601

July 24, 1995

Mr. H. A. Schlobohm
Program Consultant
Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns
1430 S.W. Topeka Boulevard
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1877

RE: Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Justice, to
Conduct a Statewide ADA Information-Sharing Conference

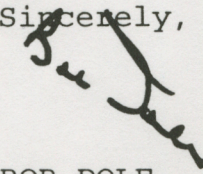
Dear Alan:

Thank you for sharing with me information about your grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice for funding for a statewide conference on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

I believe your project is very important. As you may know, I was responsible for the technical assistance authorization in ADA. In my view, we cannot expect state and local governments and businesses to do what ADA asks unless they understand what the law requires and the most effective--and cost-effective--ways to meet those requirements. Several months ago my staff began talking with associations that represent local governments to learn how ADA was going for them. I felt this outreach was particularly important since ADA was exempted from recent unfunded mandates legislation. We learned that many local communities were having a tough time in getting straight answers about ADA. Moreover, it seems to me that much criticism of ADA has come from a misunderstanding of what the law really says.

I believe your conference will help solve these problems, and will not only benefit the citizens of Kansas but, as a model project, people throughout the nation. Please keep me informed of your progress, and let me how I can be helpful.

Sincerely,


BOB DOLE
United States Senate



TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL

DATE: 7/26/95

TO: Alan Schlosberg 913/296-1984

FROM: Alexander Vachon

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141 Hart Senate Office Building
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SUBJ: _____

Dms