

BOB DOLE

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COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

FINANCE

RULES

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1601

December 29, 1994

The Honorable George M. White  
Architect of the Capitol  
U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear George:

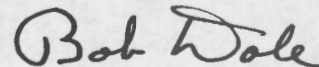
As you know, the Old Senate Chamber is inaccessible to people who use wheelchairs because of two short steps at the main entrance. It is my understanding that plans had been drawn up some time ago to remedy this situation, with due respect for the historical sensitivity of this room, but that these plans were never implemented. In my view, the Capitol Building itself is an important symbol of our open and representative government, and that it should be equally available to all Americans.

Pending a permanent alteration, I request that a temporary ramp be installed immediately, but in no case later than the opening of the 104th Congress on January 4, 1994.

In addition, I have asked a member of my staff, Dr. Alexander Vachon, to call you to follow up on this request and to arrange a meeting to review other outstanding accessibility issues. Although I am aware the Architect's office has been active in making the Capitol complex accessible since 1976, I believe a fresh review would be timely.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



BOB DOLE  
United States Senate