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RESEARCH CORPORATION

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FOUNDATION URGES IMMEDIATE ACTION TO MAKE "SUPPRESSED" GOVERNMENT INVENTIONS AVAILABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Strong support for measures that would speed the development and use of university inventions made with government help was expressed today by James S. Coles, President of Research Corporation.

In a letter to Sen. Bob Dole (R.-Kans.), Dr. Coles stated that the refusal of government agencies to relinquish patent rights to inventions "has been harmful primarily to the public, but also to the universities which have invested funds of their own, and to the individuals who have invested their time and talents to develop the new concepts."

In a statement released this week (Aug. 4), Sen. Dole charges that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is suppressing lifesaving medical technology by "stone-walling" requests from major universities seeking industrial partners to develop medical inventions for public use.

A bill cosponsored by Senators Dole and Birch Bayh (p.-Ind.) will be introduced to establish a federal patent policy that will permit universities and small businesses to develop the inventions they make with government assistance.

A nonprofit foundation chartered in 1912 to make inventions more available and effective and to provide the means for scientific research and experimentation, Research Corporation has long been concerned with transferring new university technology into broad public use. In carrying out its objectives, it maintains invention administration agreements with 275 scientific and educational institutions in the U.S. and other countries.

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(Editor: In case you did not receive it, a copy of Sen. Dole's statement is attached.)