



AUTM Statement on Bob Dole's Legacy

Dec. 6, 2021 --- Following his passing, Sen. Bob Dole will be remembered by AUTM most for his vision and commitment to the growth of the US innovation economy. The [Bayh-Dole Act](#) of 1980, which he co-authored with Senator Birch Bayh, transformed the way innovations were developed and lasting impact on the US economy. A senator from Kansas from 1969-1996, a World War II veteran, and one of the most consistent voices in the senate, Bob Dole's contributions will leave a lasting mark.

The Bayh-Dole Act of 1980 represented a major shift in the ownership structure of patents and intellectual property, putting ownership of inventions made in whole or in part with federal funds into the hands of academic institutions and small businesses. It has been more than 40 years since this innovative legislation, more than a trillion dollars in economic impact, millions of jobs, thousands of patents and start-up businesses, and countless new drugs and medical innovations. We will never forget the enormous [impact](#) Bob Dole has made on America.

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