Elizabeth Dole

U.S. Senator *for* North Carolina

Major Accomplishments in 2007 and Successes from Years Past

Ensuring that Trade Agreements are Fair and Enforced

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Secured $9.5 million for U.S. Customs to oversee textile transshipments enforcement in the fiscal year 2008 Homeland Security spending bill. Total amount Elizabeth Dole has secured for this effort is $57 million.
- Supported the Peru Free Trade Agreement, which is expected to increase North Carolina exports in sectors such as agriculture, textiles and other manufacturing industries.

Dole tours the Workforce Development Center in Johnston County. (August 2007)

Ensuring that Trade Agreements are Fair and Enforced

Dole receives awards from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) for her pro-business voting record in the U.S. Senate. (Greensboro, May 2007)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- Secured hard-fought concessions in trade agreements such as DR-CAFTA and Vietnam to make the treaties better for North Carolina industries.
  - DR-CAFTA Region was the second largest market for North Carolina manufacturing, agriculture and textile products in 2006.
  - North Carolina exports to DR-CAFTA are some of the fastest export growth to any market in the world, from any state in the United States.
- Supported textile industry's efforts to impose China safeguards and successfully pressed the Administration to self-initiate import restraints, ensuring faster responses to new developments. Actions led to a comprehensive textile agreement with China through 2008 that is strongly supported by the majority of the textile industry.
  - National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO): Elizabeth Dole's action on China Safeguards "helped preserve more textile jobs in North Carolina than any other action that the Senator could have taken."

Ensuring that Trade Agreements are Fair and Enforced

Dole at a Business Expo in Rocky Mount. (October 2007)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- Successfully urged the Commerce Department to release import trade data on a biweekly basis so that the China safeguard mechanism can be used effectively.
- Authored measure directing DoD to better train personnel on the Berry Amendment, which requires DoD to give preference to domestically produced, manufactured or home grown products. U.S. textile industry provides more than 8,000 products to U.S. military, and business supports tens of thousands of North Carolina jobs.
- Secured $2 million overall for textile tracer initiative, which would mark legal goods and keep out illegally smuggled textiles.

Bolstering Rural Communities

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Introduced the Southeast Crescent Authority (SECA) Act to assist economically distressed communities in North Carolina and other Southeastern states. The SECA Act would provide funding to spur economic development, establish priorities in development planning, support local development districts and encourage private investment in the region.
- Introduced the Lumbee Recognition Act to provide full federal recognition of the Lumbee Tribe and the associated health care benefits, social services and economic development opportunities.
  - The projected benefit of Elizabeth Dole's bill for the regional economy would be nearly $300 million annually.

Dole, with Rep. Mike McIntyre, speaks at a hearing on the Lumbee Recognition bill. (April 2007)

Bolstering Rural Communities

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Dole amendment included in the fiscal year 2008 budget resolution that calls for an extra $250 million to be designated for USDA Rural Development water and wastewater loans and grants to improve water access in rural areas.
- Successfully advocated for the Senate-passed farm bill to include a textile provision that provides the domestic textile industry four cents for every pound of cotton it consumes. These funds must be used for upgrading and expanding infrastructure at domestic textile plants, thus supporting manufacturing and cotton producing jobs.

Dole addresses the N.C. Farm Bureau's annual meeting in Greensboro. (December 2007)

Bolstering Rural Communities

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Opposed Washington-Beaufort Counties site for a Navy outlying landing field and had funding for the OLF stripped from defense bills. Elizabeth Dole has stated that broad local support for an OLF is essential. She has assured North Carolinians and advised the Navy that she will oppose the Navy's efforts to acquire any site in North Carolina that fails to meet this standard.

Dole hears concerns from local officials about a potential OLF in Eastern North Carolina. (Elizabeth City, October 2007)

Bolstering Rural Communities

Above, Dole gleans sweet potatoes for the hungry in Harnett County and right, she checks out exhibits at the N.C. State Fair. (October 2007)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- When our farmers were faced with bankruptcy and foreclosures, Elizabeth Dole fought to secure a tobacco quota buyout, which will pump $4 billion into North Carolina's rural economy. This annual infusion of hundreds of millions of dollars is benefiting not only farm families but also by ripple effect, rural communities, local retailers and small businesses.

Spurring Economic Growth

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Helped secure more than $20.7 million for transportation infrastructure and economic development in North Carolina for fiscal year 2008.
- Cosponsored the bipartisan Build America Bonds Act to fund much needed new transportation construction and repair of the nation's aging roads, rail lines and bridges.
- Secured for $4.75 million for Charlotte Rapid Transit Extension for fiscal year 2008.
- Supported Senate passage of the Federal Housing Administration Modernization Act, after negotiating with Banking Committee leadership to make the bill more fair for minority homebuyers.

Dole, with Sen. Marc Basnight, examines the Herbert C. Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet. (October 2007)

Spurring Economic Growth

Dole speaks at a Senate briefing about the Interstate-73/74 corridor. (September 2007)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- As a result of tax relief Elizabeth Dole has supported, in North Carolina…
  - Average salary earner has seen a 25 percent reduction in taxes
  - Small business owners are saving over $3,600 a year
  - Average family of four had their federal taxes cut in half, saving them over $2,000 a year
- Pushed for North Carolina to receive $5.1 billion in the 2005 transportation bill, a 31 percent increase over the last bill. She also secured an increase in the amount the state receives from the highway trust fund, from 90.5 cents to 92 cents from every dollar we put in. Additionally, she pushed for a 78 percent increase in transit funding over the last bill.

Preparing an Educated, Highly Skilled Workforce

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Introduced Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act (TAA) to expand TAA eligibility to displaced workers whose jobs are moved to a nation with no preferential trade agreement with the United States and to provide automatic TAA eligibility for displaced textile and apparel employees. The bill would double the TAA funding authorization to $440 million.
- Successfully pressed for measures from her legislation to provide grant funding to community colleges to be included in the higher education bill, which was approved by the Senate. Elizabeth Dole believes that North Carolina's community colleges are valuable resources for educating and training the state's workforce and supporting economic development.

Dole with students at Hanford-Dole Elementary School in Salisbury. (February 2007)

Securing our Borders and Enforcing our Laws

Dole with Wake County Sheriff Donnie Harrison and Johnston County Sheriff Steve Bizzell in Raleigh. (August 2007)

<u>Key Accomplishments of 2007</u>

- Was a leader in opposing the Senate immigration bill because it rushed to legalize millions of illegal aliens. Called for addressing the real crisis by first focusing on securing our borders and enforcing our laws.
- Worked with federal officials and sheriffs across our state to establish the nation's first and only statewide plan to identify and process criminal aliens. This plan will allow North Carolina Sheriffs to coordinate with federal officials and access the tools necessary to deal with undocumented aliens who have self-identified themselves by committing crimes, such as drunk driving and gang- and drug-related activities. Elizabeth Dole wants to help keep our communities safe and believes that criminal aliens who are obviously here for the wrong reasons should be removed.

Securing our Borders and Enforcing our Laws

Dole in Rocky Mount. (October 2007)

<u>Key Accomplishments of 2007</u>

- Cosponsored $3 billion in emergency spending for security and enforcement measures that include: hiring more Customs & Border Protection officers, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, investigators and U.S. Marshals; improving employee verification; building hundreds of miles of border fencing; adding 45,000 detention beds; and providing training and tools for local law enforcement to handle criminal illegal aliens.
- Introduced measure that became law that prevents the State Department from issuing visas to citizens of countries that decline to accept their nationals when U.S. courts order them removed from the United States. This law prevents new visas from getting issued to countries that refuse to accept their nationals removed by the United States.
- Worked with Rep. Sue Myrick to secure an immigration court for North Carolina, which was the only state of the 14 states with the largest illegal alien populations without an immigration court. The Department of Justice plans to open the court in September 2008.

Strengthening National Security

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Strongly supported the troops' mission but has been vocal in her criticism of the Administration's numerous mistakes in Iraq. Supported a measure that calls for our troops to transition to a more limited set of missions by December 15, 2008. She also has cosponsored bipartisan legislation that requires a report on the status of redeployment planning from the Administration.
- Introduced a joint resolution that recommends that our nation commit no less than four percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to annual defense budgets. The U.S. currently spends 3.3 percent of GDP each year on defense, a figure that experts say will be inadequate to fund priorities, including military procurement of equipment such as MRAP armored vehicles, construction at North Carolina bases and health care for service members and their families.

Dole gets an up close look at a Mine Resistant Ambush Protection (MRAP) vehicle at Force Protection in Roxboro. (November 2007)

Strengthening National Security

Dole helped organize and spoke at the Regional BRAC Hearing in Charlotte. (June 2005)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- Elizabeth Dole helped lead the successful effort to ensure that North Carolina military bases, which annually contribute $18 billion to the state's economy, were kept open and even expanded during the 2005 military base realignment and closure round. Unlike many states, North Carolina came through with flying colors with no major closures, and Fort Bragg gained more than 8,900 jobs.

Guaranteeing America's Commitment to our Service Members and Veterans

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Authored a provision in the defense authorization bill for fiscal year 2008 requiring Secretary of the Navy to directly notify Marines, dependents and civilian employees who were assigned at Camp Lejeune between 1958 and 1987 that they were exposed to water contaminated with dangerous chemicals – the government estimates that 1 million people were affected.
- Introduced legislation to extend the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for up to six months for spouses, sons, daughters, parents and next of kin of members of the Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserve, who have combat-related injuries. This measure was included in the defense authorization bill for fiscal year 2008.

Dole accepts the Charles Dick Medal of Merit from the National Guard in Raleigh. (February 2006)

Guaranteeing America's Commitment to our Service Members and Veterans

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Cosponsored the Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act, a comprehensive military and veteran health care bill that will ensure that veterans and wounded members of the Armed Forces receive the highest quality care at military and VA hospitals. This measure was included in the defense authorization bill.
- Introduced a Senate resolution that encourages schools and teachers to educate students on the great contributions veterans have made to the country and its history, both while serving as members of the United States Armed Forces and after completing their service.

Dole greets veterans at a Veterans Day parade in Morehead City. (November 2007)

Guaranteeing America's Commitment to our Service Members and Veterans

Dole at the dedication of the Veterans Memorial at Jack Laughery Park in Rocky Mount. (November 2007)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- Was a leader in getting national standards to protect service members and their families from predatory lending. Unscrupulous lenders were targeting our military, leading to a cycle of financial and professional suffering for service members and their families and posing potential negative ramifications for operational readiness.
- Supported an increase in the Combat Death Benefit from $12,420 to $100,000 and Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance from $250,000 to $400,000.

Making Health Care Accessible and Affordable

Dole visits WakeMed Raleigh Campus. (January 2008)

<u>Key Accomplishments of 2007</u>

- Led the fight to prevent a Medicaid policy change that would cost North Carolina hospitals hundreds of millions of dollars annually and eliminate the safety net for uninsured and low-income patients. In 2007 alone, Elizabeth Dole's efforts saved the state's hospitals $330 million.
- Cosponsored the Every American Insured Health Act, which provides refundable, advanceable flat tax credits of $2,160 per individual and $5,400 per family that give them the freedom to choose the health care coverage that meets their needs.
- Called for reauthorizing and responsibly expanding the State Children's Health Insurance Program so that all eligible children in North Carolina are covered, and opposed a bill that would have disproportionately burdened North Carolina's economy to fund the program. After this bill was twice vetoed, Dole successfully advocated for a long-term extension of SCHIP to end the uncertainty facing North Carolina and preserve coverage for children in our state. Elizabeth Dole continues to advocate for a bill to reauthorize and expand this valuable program in a way that truly helps, not hurts, North Carolina.

Ensuring Retirement Security

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Called on the Social Security Commissioner to address the delays many North Carolinians face. Commissioner responded that he will propose plan to drive down disability backlog.
- Successfully pressed for additional funding for administrative expenses to help alleviate the delays and backlog. In the fiscal year 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Act, Congress approved $9.74 billion for administrative funding that will go towards reducing Social Security disability backlogs.

Dole in Forest City. (August 2006)

Ensuring Retirement Security

Dole talks with constituents at a lunch stop in Kitty Hawk. (October 2007)

Previous Years' Accomplishments

- Successfully pressed the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) to improve access to the Social Security Administration field office in Asheville, which was unreachable by public transportation.
- Supported historic Medicare prescription drug legislation that adds a drug benefit to the program. More than one million North Carolina seniors now have prescription coverage, including more than 620,000 enrolled in Medicare Part D.
- Supported the Pension Protection Act of 2006 that increases the retirement security for American workers by helping to ensure the solvency of American pension plans. Guarantees pensions for hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians.

Strengthening and Protecting Families

Left, Dole with constituents from Butner in Washington, D.C. (March 2007) and above, in Winston-Salem (February 2007).

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Cosponsored the Gang Abatement and Prevention Act of 2007, which was approved by the Senate and sets tougher federal penalties for those who commit gang-related and other violent acts and directly criminalizes and penalizes gang crime.
- Received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, a national coalition of the leading consumer, health and safety groups and insurance organizations. Elizabeth Dole was recognized for her significant role in advancing air bag technology when she served as Secretary of Transportation. As a result, today there are more than 177 million air bag-equipped vehicles on the road.

Strengthening and Protecting Families

Previous Years' Accomplishments

- Cosponsored the Combat Meth Act, which limits methamphetamine producers' ability to obtain pseudoephedrine, the primary ingredient in meth and provides anti-meth funding for law enforcement, training, and treatment.
- Secured $168,000 for the Asheville Metro Area Methamphetamine Laboratory Enforcement Initiative.

Dole hosts a homeownership workshop in Hickory. (June 2007)

Confirming judges who will strictly interpret the Constitution and not attempt to legislate from the bench

<u>Since 2003, Elizabeth Dole has…</u>

- Supported the confirmation of 182 of President Bush's circuit and district court nominess.
- Successfully pushed for the Senate confirmations of seven North Carolinians to the federal bench.
- Voted for the confirmation of two Supreme Court justices, John Roberts and Samuel Alito.

Dole calls for up-or-down votes for judicial nominees. (May 2005)

Advocating for Fiscal Responsibility and Eliminating Waste

Dole addresses reporters at a Senate press conference. (June 2007)

<u>Key Accomplishments of 2007</u>

- Introduced and cosponsored measures to give the president the authority to veto or rescind wasteful spending in legislation.
- Cosponsored the Stop Over-Spending (S.O.S.) Act of 2007. This would encourage fiscal discipline within the federal government, set consequences for overspending, reduce the federal deficit and balance the budget by 2012.
- Cosponsored the Commission on Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies (CARFA) Act. This would create a bipartisan commission to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of federal agencies' programs and submit to Congress recommendations for realigning or eliminating programs where inefficiency, waste or fraud is found.

Addressing Hunger in America and Internationally

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Elizabeth Dole backed several anti-hunger initiatives included in the Senate-approved farm bill including:
  - The Food Employment Empowerment and Development (FEED) Act, which helps fight hunger by combining food rescue with job training, thus teaching unemployed and homeless adults the skills needed to work in the food service industry.
  - An amendment that addresses four tax issues that will encourage food donations and volunteering to help the hungry. This package will extend for two years a provision from the Pension Protection Act that allows any taxpayer to claim an enhanced deduction for donations of food; allow restaurants to qualify for this deduction; simplify the rules that allow farmers and ranchers to take advantage of this deduction for donating their products; and allow volunteers to receive a tax deduction for mileage incurred while transporting food donations.
  - Reauthorization of the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program which provides U.S. commodity and agricultural products and financial and technical assistance for school feeding and child nutrition services in some of the world's poorest countries.

Dole and Sen. Dick Durbin introduce legislation that reauthorizes and expands the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program. (March 2007)

Addressing Hunger in America and Internationally

Dole visits Second Harvest Food Bank in Charlotte. (February 2007)

<u>Key Accomplishments of 2007</u>

- Introduced Hunger Relief Trucking Tax Credit Act which would change the tax code to give transportation companies tax incentives for volunteering trucks to transfer gleaned food.
- Co-chaired the Senate Hunger Caucus, which provides a bipartisan forum for Senators and staff to discuss, advance and engage on national and international hunger and food insecurity efforts.

Ensuring Clean Air and Water

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Elizabeth Dole is one of two Republicans to help introduce bipartisan legislation to reduce our nation's emissions to ensure clean air and reduce global warming. America's Climate Security Act (S. 2191) sets emission allowances starting in 2012 through 2050 for specific sectors and provides a framework for businesses to trade or bank unused allowances. By encouraging new technologies and alternative sources of energy, this bill will also help reduce our dependence on oil from unstable parts of the world.
- Introduced legislation to help protect our most susceptible populations, such as pregnant women, infants and children, against the negative health impacts of drinking water contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE), a chemical commonly used in degreasing agents, paint and spot removers and adhesives. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), TCE is the most widespread water contaminant in the nation and can be found in soil and groundwater in every state. Drinking water from Camp Lejeune wells, which were closed between 1985 and 1987, was contaminated with TCE, among other chemicals.

Ensuring Clean Air and Water

Key Accomplishments of 2007

- Introduced legislation to authorize the expansion of the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site's boundary by an additional 115 acres.
- Helped secure $6 million in previously designated funds to go towards a settlement for Swain County in lieu of building the North Shore Road.
- Cosponsored legislation to authorize the forest service to acquire 96 acres of land near Catawba Falls and the Pisgah National Forest. Purchasing the property would allow the Forest Service to open a public trail to Catawba Falls in McDowell County.
- Cosponsored legislation to begin the process of providing the Perquimans River with federal protection. The Perquimans River Wild and Scenic Study Act of 2007 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to study the Perquimans River and its tributaries to determine if the waterway qualifies for Wild and Scenic designation. The designation would not affect private property rights or re-zone any land around the river.

Dole meets with Park Rangers at the Moses H. Cone estate on the Blue Ridge Parkway. (August 2006)

Ensuring Clean Air and Water

Dole at Lake Junaluska. (September 2004)

<u>Previous Years' Accomplishments</u>

- Leader in the fight against oil drilling off the North Carolina coast.
- Secured nearly $2 million for the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- Secured nearly $270 million for North Carolina beach renourishment and dredging projects.
- Designated $36 million for North Carolina projects in Water Resources Development Act of 2007.

Providing Constituent Services

Key Accomplishments

- Assisted constituents with more than 35,000 cases since taking office.
- Hosted housing workshops in Hickory and Greenville and discussed how to repair credit, budget for a home, choose a realtor, navigate the loan application process, and avoid foreclosure.
- Called on the State Department to alleviate the long processing delays many constituents are encountered when applying for passports. The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), which requires passports for travel to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean, generated a backlog of unprocessed passport requests, forcing many people to cancel long-held travel plans or incur significant expenses to change their arrangements because they were not receiving their passports on time. In order to accommodate the volume of requests, members of Elizabeth Dole's staff volunteered for several weeks to work nights and weekends because it is easier to get through to the National Passport Information center during that time.
- Dole's representatives in the state also hold Constituent Days in counties across North Carolina. Constituents can use these traveling office hours to meet with Dole's staff to discuss their concerns with federal agencies, case work, or issues pending before Congress.

Left to right, Dole talks with a constituent at a homeownership workshop in Greenville (August 2007); presents Rural Development funding in Landis (May 2007); and meets Meals-On-Wheels volunteers in Winston-Salem (February 2007).