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Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

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CONFEREES ACCEPT IMPACT AID FUNDING AMENDMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole's amendment to restore impact aid fund eligibility to Kansas schools was accepted today by the House conferees on the School Lunch Bill. This action clears the measure for final Congressional action expected to come later this week.

Dole, who was a conferee on the bill, said that the House members of the conference accepted his amendment without objection. "This is a major and next-to-last step in securing final passage of the legislation restoring the almost 8 million dollars in federal funding for Kansas schools. Since the provision was not in the House passed version," Dole said, "it was essential that House and Senate conferees agree to retain it in the final bill. Now the bill must go back to both the House and Senate for ratification of the conference action. This is usually done quickly and routinely," Dole added.

On the School Lunch bill itself, Dole said the conferees agreed to increase the federal reimbursement from 8 to 10 cents a meal, to increase free lunch federal support from 40 to 45 cents a meal, and from 30 to 35 cents a meal for reduced price lunches. They also approved adoption of an escalator clause allowing fro adjustments in federal support levels consistant with changes in the consumer price index.