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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE ANNOUNCES FULL KANSAS PARTICIPATION IN OZARKS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today announced that the entire State of Kansas has formally been made a part of the Ozarks Economic Development Region.

"I was notified today that Secretary of Commerce Frederick Dent has signed the order to include all 105 Kansas counties in the Ozarks Region. This statewide extension, which I had requested, will be of significant help in making our state's planning and development efforts more effective and efficient. It will also put Kansas on an equal footing with the other four ORC States -- Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Louisiana -- which have had full participation for a number of years."

Senator Dole had earlier renewed his request for this extension when the Administration decided to seek an additional year of operation for the regional commissions prior to transition to a new development program.

"Secretary Dent agreed with my view that extension of these programs provided ample justification for putting Kansas on a whole-State basis. Our State currently plans its development programs this way, and it makes good sense to implement them in the most coordinated and efficient manner," Senator Dole said. "Today's formal approval opens a great new opportunity for Kansas to diversify and enlarge the economic base of the entire State."