

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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## KANSAS TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Washington -- Senator Bob Dole (R - Kan.) today announced that Kansas will receive an additional \$1.1 million for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LEIAP) in Fiscal Year 1983 as a result of Senate amendments to the recently enacted Continuing Budget Resolution. Kansas will now receive more than \$16.8 million to help the poor pay utility bills.

The final version of the Continuing Resolution contained \$125 million more for LIEAP than the original Senate version, for a total federal expenditure of \$1.975 billion.

"I was pleased the House/Senate conference committee accepted at least some of the funding we added in the Senate. The Continuing Resolution also contains a provision allocating \$200 million from the Department of Energy's excrow account of funds collected from alleged petroleum pricing overcharges, to the states for use in fuel aid and conservation programs. The fate of that provision is uncertain due to amendments added by House Democrats, but Kansas may receive substantial additional funds for fuel aid," Senator Dole said.

"Increasing natural gas prices have become an intolerable burden for many low income families. For those who can't pay their gas bill this winter, the only solution was to increase funding for low income energy assistance," Dole said.

"Although the conference committee did not go as far as I would have liked, this action at least demonstrates a growing recognition of the seriousness of the problem created by the Natural Gas Policy Act. I am optimistic that Congress and the Administration will focus attention early next year on correcting the inequities in the natural gas market. Many of us looked at various proposals during the lame duck session, but it was clear the only way to provide meaningful relief this winter was to make more money available for those who can't pay exorbitant heating bills," Dole said.

Dole was a cosponsor of both amendments to add money for low income energy assistance.