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KANSAS TO RECEIVE \$13.7 MILLION IN HOUSING GRANTS

Washington, D.C. -- Kansas Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum today announced that the State of Kansas has been awarded a Community Development Block Grant of over \$13.7 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

"In light of the many small communities in Kansas with serious economic development needs, any form of assistance is welcome news. The State Block Grant Program is specifically designed to assist small cities and towns in their community development efforts," said Dole.

Under the program, local governments will apply for individual grants from the State. State officials have identified three categories of funding allocations. Economic development competition will be held three times per year, with an allocation of from \$4.3 million to \$7 million, depending on demand. Community improvement competition will be held annually with an allocation of \$5.7 million to \$8.3 million, also depending on demand. The remainder will be used for projects made necessary as the result of natural disasters.

Dole noted the program represented an effort to return authority and responsibility to the states to better meet the needs of localities with maximum flexibility.