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SENATE ADOPTS DOLE AMENDMENT TO MAKE MANHATTAN BRIDGE PRIORITY PROJECT

Washington, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Kan) today introduced an amendment to the Department of Transportation Appropriations bill which directs the Department to make the replacement of the Kansas River Bridge in Manhattan a priority project. The Senate approved the amendment by voice vote prior to passing the overall bill this afternoon.

"Under the Highway Trust Fund, Congress may direct the Transportation Secretary to give priority designation to bridges that are in need of extensive repair or replacement and which serve as major links for both intrastate and interstate travel. The Kansas River Bridge clearly meets this criteria -- it was constructed over 50 years ago and is a major crossing of the Kansas River," said Dole.

"The State already submitted a full and complete application to the Department earlier this summer. What this amendment does is make the Kansas River Bridge a priority project for discretionary funding," Dole said.

Total cost of the project is expected to be \$19,862,800, with the federal share expected to be 15,890,240.