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S.E. KANSAS JOB RETRAINING GRANT ANNOUNCED

Washington, D.C. -- SENATORS BOB DOLE AND NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM (R-KS), CONGRESSMAN BOB WHITTAKER (R-KS) AND GOVERNOR MIKE HAYDEN (R-KS) ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE SECRETARY OF LABOR IS TO AWARD \$350,000 TO LABETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN PARSONS TO PROVIDE TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES OPPORTUNITIES TO WORKERS DISLOCATED IN SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS BY THE MERGER OF THE MISSOURI, KANSAS AND TEXAS (KATY) RAILROAD WITH THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

THE PROPOSAL WILL SERVE APPROXIMATELY 159 PARTICIPANTS PROVIDING ASSESSMENT, COUNSELING, REMEDIAL EDUCATION, ON-THE-JOB AND VOCATIONAL SKILL TRAINING AND PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES SUCH AS CHILD CARE, TRANSPORTATION AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE.

"I AM PLEASED THAT SECRETARY ANN MCLAUGHLIN RECOGNIZED THE SERIOUS NEED FOR JOB RETRAINING IN SOUTHEAST KANSAS SINCE THE KATY MERGER," SAID SENATOR DOLE. "MIKE HAYDEN, NANCY KASSEBAUM BOB WHITTAKER AND I ARE ALL WORKING HARD TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF SOUTHEAST KANSAS."

GOVERNOR MIKE HAYDEN SAID, "I AM PLEASED THAT A STATE AGENCY, THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, WAS INVOLVED IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT IN DEVELOPING THIS PROPOSAL. IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT LABETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE WILL SUPPLEMENT THE GRANT FUNDS SO THAT THE TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE WILL BE \$420,000."