

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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\$1.5 MILLION FOR RURAL HOSPITALS

**DOLE ANNOUNCES \$1.55 MILLION GRANT TO 11 RURAL KANSAS HOSPITALS;
"GOOD MEDICINE FOR HEALTH CARE IN KANSAS"**

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today announced that the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) has awarded a total of \$1,552,726 to 11 hospitals in Kansas. Senator Dole backed the grants, which are designed to assist states in maintaining access to health care services in rural areas by converting hospitals to Essential Access Community Hospitals (EACH) and Rural Primary Care Hospitals (PCH). Senator Dole helped create and reauthorize the program, which also provided \$3.3 million for rural Kansas hospitals in 1991.

"There's a lot of competition for these grants, and this funding is good medicine for health care in Kansas," Dole said. "As far as I'm concerned, rural America must be at the forefront of health care reform, and this innovative program is already helping to improve the delivery of medical services across our state. Our local hospital administrators are enthusiastic about this program, and that's why I was pleased to work with them in seeking this new funding, which will give a much-needed shot in the arm to 11 hospitals serving thousands and thousands of Kansans."

An EACH hospital provides emergency and medical backup services to the primary care hospitals in its network. A PCH hospital is a smaller facility located in a rural area that provides 24-hour emergency care, and devotes no more than six beds to short-term (72-hour) inpatient care to patients requiring stabilization before being transferred to another hospital.

Since Kansas filed its application earlier this year, Senator Dole has urged the Department of Health & Human Services to support the funding awarded today. Dole also credited the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services, the Kansas Hospital Association, the Kansas Department of Health & Environment and the Wesley Foundation in Wichita for their continued support of the program.

Under the program, an EACH hospital must have at least 75 beds or be located more than 35 miles from any other hospital. States select hospitals for conversion to EACH and PCH hospitals. The grant also includes \$178,762 for the Kansas Office of Local & Rural Health Services in Topeka.

Kansas is one of only seven states to receive grants under this program. A list of Kansas hospitals identified in the state's application to receive the grants is attached.

(see attached list)

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KANSAS HOSPITAL PROGRAMS RECEIVING
ESSENTIAL ACCESS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL PROGRAM FUNDS

| <u>Hospital</u> | <u>Grant</u> |
|--|--------------------|
| Kansas Office of Local & Rural Health Systems, Topeka | \$178,762 |
| Atwood Rawlins County Hospital | \$200,000 |
| Cedar Vale Cedar Vale Community Hospital | \$200,000 |
| Ellinwood Ellinwood District Hospital | \$ 32,000 |
| Hays Hays Medical Center | \$ 49,640 |
| Independence Mercy Hospital | \$200,000 |
| Jewell Jewell County Hospital | \$126,248 |
| Neodesha Wilson County Hospital | \$200,000 |
| Oswego Oswego City Hospital | \$ 69,006 |
| Ransom Grissell Memorial | \$ 57,200 |
| Salina Asbury-Salina Regional Med. Ctr | \$104,870 |
| Winfield William Newton Memorial | \$135,000 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$1,552,726</u> |