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NEWS

FROM:

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, July 20, 1994

DOLE PROPOSAL FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM APPROVED BY SENATE

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Senate late Tuesday approved Senator Bob Dole's amendment to provide \$859,000 for state grants funding technical assistance to child nutrition programs for students with disabilities. The project was added as an amendment to the 1995 Agriculture Appropriations Bill as an amendment during Senate debate. The bill, expected to pass the Senate today, will now go to a joint House/Senate conference committee to work out differences with legislation passed by the House.

"I am concerned that many of our nation's school children are not participating in nutrition programs because they have disabilities or eating disorders. These important grants will assist the food service community in providing for the special needs of these children," said Dole.

The Better Nutrition and Health for Children Act of 1994 requires USDA to provide guidance to assist schools and other institutions in accommodating children with disabilities. The funding will provide for state grants, authorized under the Act, to cover nonrecurring costs associated with accommodating the dietary requirements of special needs children. The grants would be awarded on a competitive basis to purchase special feeding and food preparation equipment or to provide training and educational materials.