

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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KANSAS-MISSOURI BORDER BILL PASSES SENATE

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum today announced Senate approval of their bill to officially define the boundary between Kansas and Missouri. House Resolution 4048 was co-sponsored by Missouri Senators John Danforth and Thomas Eagleton.

Similar legislation, introduced by Kansas Representative Jim Jeffries and other members of the Kansas and Missouri delegations, was passed in the House on Tuesday.

"This action will solve a problem of significant legal importance," said Senator Dole. "The enactment of House Resolution 4048 grants congressional approval to an agreement reached by unanimous votes in the Kansas and Missouri state legislatures."

The exact location of the boundary has been in question since a flood near St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1952 altered the Missouri River channel. Fifteen years later, the state legislatures created select committees which agreed that a survey should be conducted to determine the deep water line of the abandoned channel. The deep water line was then to become the official boundary.

The survey was completed in 1980. That year, the Kansas Legislature unanimously approved legislation to designate the boundary, and the Missouri Legislature echoed that action in 1981. The effective date of those bills has since awaited federal approval.

Dole said that today's action answers a "long-standing problem with a concrete solution."