News from Senator

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DOLE AND KASSEBAUM ENCOURAGE LOCAL OFFICIALS TO ATTEND UDAG WORKSHOP IN KANSAS CITY

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum today encouraged officials from Kansas communities to attend a two-day regional training workshop on the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will present the seminar at Kansas City, Missouri's Phillips House Hotel on October 24 and 25.

All Kansas towns eligible for UDAG grants may send a representative. There is no registration fee.

The Urban Development Action Grant program is designed to encourage new or increased private investment in cities and urban counties which are experiencing severe economic distress. Action Grant funds are available to carry out projects in support of a wide variety of economic recovery activities that involve partnerships with the private sector. As a requirement for funding, a firm private sector financial commitment must be in place. The program demonstrates the Federal Government's commitment to fostering private investment in cities.

The regional training workshops will address techniques for identifying, promoting and packaging viable commercial, industrial, and residential development projects and the UDAG role in converting marginal projects into viable undertakings. The second day will be devoted to individual consultations with representatives from communities which have potential projects under consideration. Attendance will be limited to one or two persons from each of about sixty to seventy communities. State community development officials and HUD Area Office economic development specialists will be invited to attend. In some cases county or regional planning agency officials who support small communities in their areas may be appropriate attendees.

HUD has retained the firm of McManis Associates, Inc. to provide the training and technical assistance at the seminars. Interested parties should contact McManis Associates, Inc., 1201 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, or call HUD official Gordon McKay at (202) 755-5566.