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DOLE INTRODUCES U.S. DISTRICT COURT NOMINEE

WASHINGTON -- Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) introduced G.T. (Tom) Van Bebber, nominee to the U.S. District Court for Kansas, to the Senate Judiciary Committee today. President Bush nominated Van Bebber for the position in September. If confirmed, Van Bebber, a native of Troy, Kansas, would fill a vacancy created when Judge Richard Rogers assumed senior status.

The following is the text of Senator Dole's statement before the committee:

IT IS A PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE G.T. "TOM" VAN BEBBER OF TOPEKA, KANSAS, NOMINEE TO SIT ON THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR KANSAS. I ALSO WELCOME HIS WIFE, ALLEEN.

TOM VAN BEBBER, CURRENTLY SERVING AS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE, BRINGS A LIFE-TIME OF EXPERIENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE TO THIS RESPONSIBILITY. HE IS RESPECTED IN THE KANSAS LEGAL COMMUNITY, AND HAS THE UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION.

A NATIVE OF TROY, KANSAS, A RURAL FARMING COMMUNITY IN NORTHEAST KANSAS, TOM HAS HELD RESPONSIBILITIES AS ASSISTANT UNITED ATTORNEY, AS A STATE LEGISLATOR, AND AS A MEMBER OF THE KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION.

A MAGISTRATE SINCE 1982, HE IS PRAISED BY PRACTICING ATTORNEYS, BY DISTRICT JUDGES, AND BY FELLOW MAGISTRATES FOR HIS SOUND UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW, BOTH SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL; HIS INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY TO ANALYZE COMPLEX FACTS AND TO APPLY ABSTRACT LEGAL PRINCIPLES; HIS ABILITY TO ASSIMILATE FACTS AND MAKE TIMELY DECISIONS; HIS TEMPERAMENT WHICH BALANCES WISDOM, COMPASSION, AND UNDERSTANDING; HIS FAITHFULNESS TO THE PRINCIPLES OF JUDICIAL ETHICS; HIS PERSONAL INTEGRITY AND STAMINA; AND HIS LOYALTY TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

TOM HAS DEMONSTRATED HIS ABILITY TO MEET A NUMBER OF CHALLENGES ALONG THE WAY AND CAN BE COUNTED UPON TO LEND HIS GENEROUS WIT AND HIS GOOD KANSAS SENSE TO THIS CHALLENGE. HE HAS MY HIGHEST RECOMMENDATION AND MY VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. I URGE SWIFT AND UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY THE COMMITTEE.