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TOPEKAN APPOINTED STATE DIRECTOR OF FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

Washington, D.C. -- Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum (R-Ks) announced today the appointment of John R. Price as State Director of the Farmers Home Administration. Price, selected as a White House presidential appointee, is from Topeka, Kansas.

"John Price is widely respected by the agricultural community and rural bankers for his vast knowledge and experience in banking, especially in loan authority. He is a skilled manager whose expertise will prove beneficial to the FmHA lending program in Kansas," said Dole.

"Farmers Home plays an important role in helping farmers, particularly through the difficult times like the ones we've experienced in recent years," Kassebaum said. "I'm pleased to have someone with John's experience and ability head the Kansas FmHA."

Price is currently Vice President of Commerical Banking at Merchants National Bank in Topeka. He is also a member of the MNB Discount committee which functions as the approval body for loans in excess of officers lending authority. Price's past experiences at MNB include manager of the agricultural lending department. He graduated from Kansas State University in 1979 with a degree in agricultural economics.