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NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 14, 1993

## U.S. SENATE PASSES DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL; INCLUDES DOLE REQUEST FOR EDUCATION RETRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that the U.S. Senate has approved his request to include funding for education retraining to ease the transition for individuals within the Departments of Defense and Energy adversely affected by the continuing downsizing of our nation's military. The Senate included the Dole request in the Defense Authorization Bill for the coming fiscal year. The bill now goes to a joint House/Senate conference committee before final passage by both Houses.

The Senate authorized \$8 million for the coming fiscal year for a program that would allow individuals from the Departments of Defense and Energy to receive scholarships for undergraduate and post- graduate degrees at universities throughout the nation participating in the EPA's Hazardous Substance Research Center Program. Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, serves as the regional coordinator for the Great Plains/Rocky Mountain Hazardous Substance Research Center.

"While we continue to downsize our nation's defense forces, we must keep in mind that many men and women will be forced to change jobs in the middle of their careers. This scholarship program aims to give individuals who have served their country training in an area of increasing importance and help them to compete in the private sector," said Dole.

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