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DOLE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE VETERANS HEALTH SERVICES IN LIBERAL WINS SENATE APPROVAL

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole's proposal to establish community primary health care for veterans in Liberal, Kansas, won approval in the U.S. Senate late yesterday. The proposal enables the Veterans Administration to contract with local doctors for medical services that were previously available to veterans only at facilities in Amarillo, Texas.

"Establishing Liberal as a base for veterans health services is a milestone in providing them with accessible, quality medical care," Dole said. "It also means long-term economic benefits for the community. Liberal is well-placed to serve veterans in southwest Kansas and in northern Oklahoma. Veterans would receive early medical treatment at a lower cost, and the community would benefit from the increased economic activity."

Funds for the venture will be drawn from the current allotment provided to the Veterans facility in Amarillo, Texas. The project is included in the 1996 VA/HUD Appropriations Bill, which now goes to joint House/Senate committee to work out differences with legislation passed in the House.

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