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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. March 27 -- A \$30 million national allocation for the Emergency Loan fund of the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) was announced jointly today by Senators James Pearson, Bob Dole and Congressman Keith Sebelius. The delegation said this will provide emergency loan funds of approximately \$3,500,000 for farmers in Kansas in the sugar beet area.

The U.S. Budget Bureau approved the request for release of emergency funds following a meeting called by Senator Dole with the Budget officials in Dole's office Thursday. Colorado Congressional representatives also were invited to the meeting. Secretary Hardin had requested the allocation of emergency funds earlier.

"This allocation will make available necessary loan funds immediately to the sugar beet producers in western Kansas and eastern Colorado," Dole said.

Nine counties in Kansas were designated eligible for Emergency Credit following last year's disaster to the western Kansas beet crop. After investigation of the crop failure, E. Morgan Williams, Kansas State FHA Director, announced eligibility of the following counties for emergency loans: Sherman, Greeley, Wichita, Hamilton, Kearny, Stanton, Grant, Morton and Stevens. Sugar beet farmers in the eleven adjacent counties may also apply for emergency loans on an individual basis.

The Kansas Congressional Delegation made the appeal to the Budget Bureau after finding the approved emergency loans were not being made due to a lack of allocations.