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\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 23 --- In a statement before the Senate Agriculture Subcommittee on Rural Development today, U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) raised the question whether efforts to aid urban conditions, "in the long run, tend to perpetuate rural out-migration and imbalanced conditions instead of eliminating them."

During the past decade, Dole said, "government has mounted a massive effort to improve urban conditions." But because there have been no comparable efforts in rural development, Dole continued, many farmers have been forced to leave the country for better jobs in the city. This influx of dissatisfied farmers in the cities, Dole said, has in turn, effected a hardship on urban development efforts.

The Kansas Senator said his state's Economic Development Commission, has "taken some positive steps" toward solving some of these problems. Dole explained that "with this agency's help, the spontaneous initiative of concern citizens has resulted in community sponsorship of new industry, recreational facilities, water and sanitation improvements, and health facilities improvements.

Dole, whose state of Kansas produces more private aircraft than any other state, said, "The aerospace industry has found that the native Kansan can be readily trained to switch from planting and harvesting crops. to metal fabrication of aircraft, assembly of sensitive electronic gear, and even executive management."

In addition to broader education and retraining for rural Americans, Dole urged the enactment of the Presidents proposals for rural revenue sharing. Dole was a cosponsor of the bill earlier this week.