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(R.-Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225–6521 Joe Reppert—Press Secretary

For Release: March 21, 1972

Washington. D.C., March 21, 1972 - Senators James B. Pearson and Bob Dole announced today that two national representatives of the U.S. Department of Labor are in Kansas to assist in the investigation of the Emergency Employment Act program in the state, particularly in Wichita; Topeka, Kansas City, and Crawford County.

Secretary of Labor, Hodgson, informed the two Senators that the investigators would assist the Regional Manpower Administration Office in analyzing the field data from earlier investigations of Wichita. Topeka and Kansas City, Kansas areas and would join regional representatives in an on-site investigation in Crawford County where there have been recent reports of possible abuses in the job selection process.

The earlier investigation by the Labor Department in Wichita disclosed the appearance of political favoritism in filling certain state positions funded under the Emergency Employment Act, they said. Following the January 10, 1972 report of this investigation, a review of selection pocesses for similar positions in Kansas City and Topeka was undertaken by the Regional Manpower Administration of the Labor Department.

Under the Emergency Empolyement Act program, a total of \$4,327,800

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was allocated to the state government to be administered directly by the state or by local units of government under sub-contractofrom the state. An additional \$4,405,100 was allocated directly to local units of government. The Labor Department investigation covers only that part of the program controlled by the state.