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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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WASHINGTON, D.C. -- An amendment sponsored by Senator Bob Dole to provide funds for the physician shortage area scholarship program has been retained by a joint Senate-House conference committee meeting to resolve the differences in the Senate and House versions of the 1973 Appropriations Bill. The \$2-million appropriation, if signed into law, would help provide additional incentives for young Kansas physicians to establish practices in rural Kansas communities which are experiencing severe physician shortages.

The physician shortage area scholarship program provides an annual \$5,000 loan to medical students who have made a commitment to practice in physician shortage areas upon graduation from medical school. For every year of medical practice in such an area, a year's loan obligation is forgiven.

Since the House version of the Appropriations Bill did not contain this provision, the compromise version of the bill must now be approved by both the House and Senate before the measure is ready for the President's signature.