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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE SECURES APPROVAL FOR FULL KANSAS PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today announced that his request for the inclusion of the entire State of Kansas in the Ozarks Economic Development Region has been approved.

"The extension of the Ozarks Regional Commission to include all 105 Kansas counties will be a significant improvement in our State's planning and development efforts. It will also put Kansas on an equal footing with the other four ORC States -- Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Louisiana -- which have had full participation for a number of years."

Senator Dole indicated that his request had been approved by Commerce Secretary Frederick Dent in light of the Administration's decision to seek an additional year of operation for the regional commissions prior to transition to a new development program.

"Secretary Dent agreed with my view that extension of these programs provided ample justification for putting Kansas on a whole-State basis. Our State currently plans its development programs this way, and it makes good sense to implement them in the most coordinated and efficient manner," Senator Dole said.

"I am advised by the Secretary that formal action to bring all of Kansas within the Ozarks Region will take place within a very short time."