



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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APPROVAL FOR DOLE DISASTER RELIEF PROPOSAL

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- The Senate today approved legislation containing a provision sponsored by Senator Bob Dole to extend a disaster-related expense grant program to certain 1973 victims of Kansas floods and tornadoes.

The provision is part of the Senate-House conference agreement on Disaster Relief Act Amendments bill which passed the Senate on April 10. As proposed on the Senate floor by Senator Dole and Senator George Aiken (R-Vt.) the provision would make assistance available to victims of disasters which occurred after April 20, 1973.

The amendment fills a gap in the coverage between an earlier disaster relief program and the new bill approved by Congress in response to this spring's severe tornado damage in many parts of the country. Under the Dole-Aiken Amendment, grants of up to \$5,000 could be made available to cover the disaster related necessary expenses or serious needs of families who were unable to meet these expenses or needs under other assistance available to them. The grants would come from 75 percent federal funds and 25 percent state funds.

"I believe it is only fair that the victims of last years' disasters in Kansas and elsewhere should be eligible for benefits under this new \$5,000 special grant program," Senator Dole said. "I am pleased that the Conference Committee has included our amendment in recognition of this fact and that the Senate has voted final approval."